

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Fiscal Year 2001-02 Annual Report



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Letter from the Chair

Dear Reader:

Fiscal year 2002 provided new opportunities for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, and at the same time we moved forward with efforts to continue and improve our ongoing responsibilities.

The Commission refined its meeting structure to focus a broader range of experience and knowledge on the various activities of the organization. The commitment of the Commission members resulted in a stable group with a history of working effectively together on behalf of the children and youth of Tennessee.

Commission meeting presentations focused on critical policy issues, including a forum on the lottery. Children's Advocacy Days featured a gubernatorial forum with most major candidates. This Children's Advocacy Days event was perhaps the best attended ever. The forum was moderated by Chris Clark with Nashville's NewsChannel 5+ and was rebroadcast twice on the NewsChannel 5+ cable station.

TCCY added two new grant programs – the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) Program and the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program. These Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) programs were a perfect fit into the TCCY family, which already included the OJJDP Federal Formula, Title V, and Challenge Grant Programs. Consolidation of these programs provides enhanced opportunities for increased coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Flexibility and a backlog of unallocated funds enabled TCCY to use JAIBG dollars to fund juvenile court services when the state budget crisis eliminated fourth quarter funding for the State Juvenile Court Supplement Grants. These grants go to courts serving juveniles in every county of the state, and over 90 percent of these funds are used for juvenile court staff.

A great step forward in our ability to address the over-representation of minority youth in secure confinement was the award of a grant to the Tennessee State University Office of Business and Economic Research to study causes of disproportionate minority confinement (DMC) in seven counties in the state, including Blount, Madison, and Washington counties and the four urban counties of Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, and Shelby. Great strides were also made by the local taskforces addressing this issue in Chattanooga, Jackson, Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville.

Other TCCY programs also experienced continuous improvement efforts. We distributed the special report, *Tennessee and Its Children: Unmet Needs, 2001*, and improved *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*. The Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) process continued to be refined with increased involvement of Department of Children's Services staff in the process. Our regional coordinators continued to serve as our eyes and ears in the field and bring together the diverse agency programs at the regional/local level.

As in past years, the hard-working TCCY staff maintained its reputation for caring for children, and Commission members and staff strengthened their relationships and efforts to work together.

Sincerely



Betty Cannon

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader:

While the state budget crisis was the dominant political story this fiscal year, TCCY continued working daily on behalf of the state's children. The budget was not even the only legislative story. Attempts to roll back child day care reforms were avoided, at least for this year, and potentially problematic child custody legislation was amended to ensure that the best interests of the child remained the primary focus of custody determinations. We improved our legislative communications with advocates across the state, adding more analysis to the weekly tracking of legislation.

With credit to the quality and dedication of staff serving troubled youth and the endurance and merit of the youth themselves, we awarded the second annual Youth Excellence Award to Reginald Dewayne Taylor of Memphis, a minister who put his drug-dealing days behind him while at Wilder Youth Development Center. With the Making KIDS COUNT Media Awards, TCCY recognized members of the media who have both an understanding of issues important to children and commitment and expertise required to inform the public about the needs of children. Former TCCY member George Spain received the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award in recognition of his many years advocating for improvements in children's mental health.

More than 3,100 people united their efforts on behalf of children through the nine regional councils on children and youth across the state. Please review the regional council pages in this report to read about the exciting and meaningful activities of the regional councils and TCCY regional coordinators.

In addition to the training and networking events sponsored by TCCY and its regional councils, TCCY staff helped plan and implement regional events by the Child Welfare League of America and the Coalition of Juvenile Justice, plus a number of statewide conferences.

TCCY added additional staff – two juvenile justice specialists, an administrative secretary, and an accountant – to implement additional juvenile justice programs, the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) Program and the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program.

The Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) finished its eighth and began its ninth year of evaluation of children in state custody. Increased collaboration with the Department of Children's Services was begun, enhancing a partnership for improvements in services for children in state custody. Preliminary 2002 CPORT results suggest better system performance than in previous years.

TCCY staff continued to respond to concerns of families facing struggles or problems concerning children in state custody. We are pleased with the success of the Ombudsman for Children in State Custody Office, which serves families across the state and agencies serving children in state custody by working toward solutions to conflicts that arise.

During 2001-02 TCCY released and distributed *Tennessee and It's Children: Unmet Needs 2001*, educating many people about the struggles facing the state's children and arming advocates with facts about the state and its budget. The annual *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee* was revised to present relevant data on each county on a single page.

TCCY employees are a truly dedicated group of professionals who work hard to carry out Commission responsibilities. They are committed to efforts to improve the quality of life for Tennessee children and families and to helping others across the state understand the importance of nurturing and supporting our children and their families. We face the future and its challenges aware that although the barriers are great, the stakes are high for Tennessee's children.

Sincerely



Linda O'Neal

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Administration

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) is an independent agency created by the Tennessee General Assembly. The primary mission of the Commission is advocacy for improvements in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families. Tennessee has had a Commission on Children and Youth or Children's Services Commission continuously since the 1950s; the current statutory framework for the Commission on Children and Youth was enacted in 1988, with minor revisions in 1999, when it was reauthorized through 2006.

Appointed by the governor for overlapping three-year terms, the 21 Commission members serve as the policy board for the agency. At least one Commission member represents each development district, and the commissioners of state departments serving children, or their designees, are ex-officio members. The Commission also has youth advisory members as necessary to meet the requirements for serving as the state advisory group under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Committees

The Commission had five standing committees to oversee the operations of the agency during fiscal year 2001-02. The Commission officers and committee chairs served as the Executive Committee. The chair is appointed by the governor to a three-year term. Other officers, the vice-chair and the secretary, are elected by the Commission. Committee chairs and members are appointed by the Commission chair.

The Budget and Data Committee was responsible for fiscal matters, such as Commission budget requests, budget analysis, and budget recommendations, and for agency efforts to collect and disseminate information, including *The Advocate*, *KIDS COUNT*, and other publications.

The Councils and Interdepartmental Responsibilities Committee reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth and interdepartmental activities.

The Children's Services Committee provided oversight for Commission activities in the evaluation by the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT). It also reviewed implementation of the TCCY Ombudsman Program's coordination with child welfare services, juvenile justice services, and mental health services to children in custody.



The Juvenile Justice Committee supervised the implementation of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee, the administration of state funds for juvenile justice, and other juvenile justice activities.

The Minority Issues Committee ensured adequate consideration of the needs of minority children in all TCCY efforts, with particular attention given to disproportionate minority confinement (DMC) in the juvenile justice system, including recommendations from a statewide task force on how to reduce DMC. The committee was also responsible for the development of the agency plan to address issues related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Commission Meetings

During fiscal year 2001-02, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth met four times to carry out its responsibilities. In addition to the Children's Advocacy Days in March, primary topics for meetings included a presentation on Governor Don Sundquist's education plan by Holly Clark of his office, a panel on the lottery referendum with Cliff Lippard of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations and Bobbie Partray of the Eagle Forum, the evaluation of juvenile justice grantees, and a review of legislation.

Commission Membership*

Betty Cannon, Chairman
Nashville

Angi Agle
Oak Ridge

Betty Anderson-Naifeh
Covington

Joe Askins
Fayetteville

Shirlene Booker
Gray

P. Larry Boyd
Rogersville

Murray Butler
Huntingdon

Rebecca Goodman Dove
Springfield

James B. Ford
Franklin

Johnny Horne
Chattanooga

Drew Johnson
Nashville

Jim Kidd
Fayetteville

Kate Rose Krull
Covington

Mary Lee
Dickson

Christy Little
Jackson

Alisa Malone
Franklin

Jerry W. Maness
Memphis

Sharon T. Massey
Clarksville

Linda Miller
Memphis

Suzan Mitchell
Johnson City

Marie Mobley
Goodlettsville

Debbie Prock
Lafayette

John Rambo
Johnson City

Semeka Randall
Knoxville

Mary Kate Ridgeway
Paris

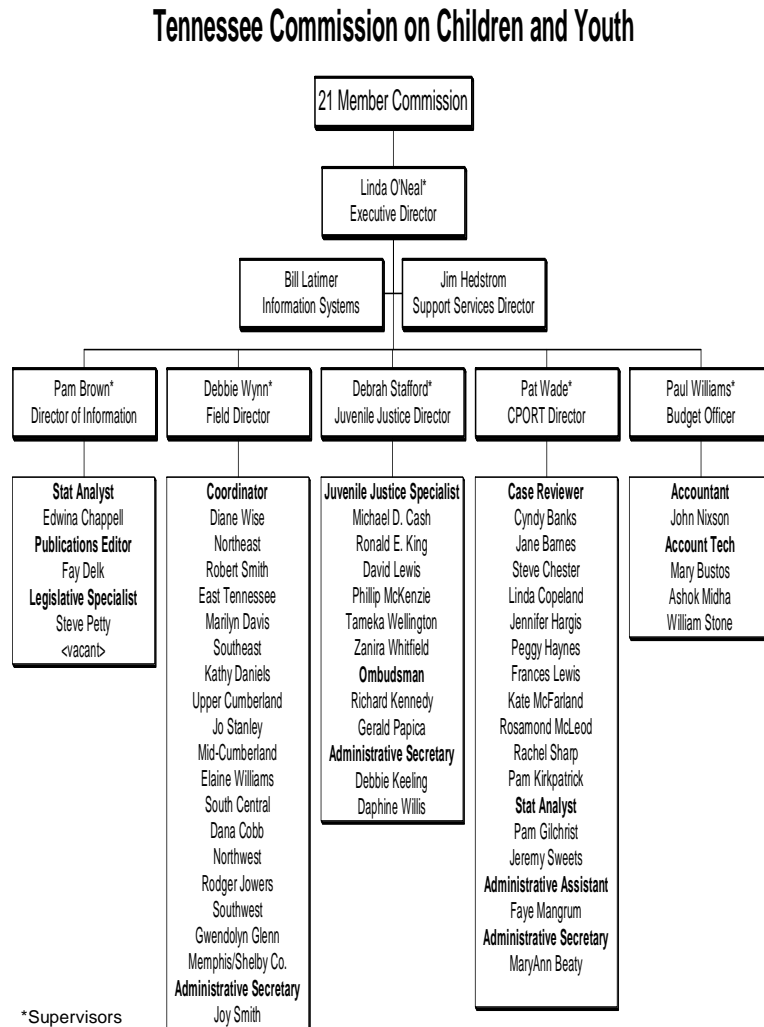
James Stewart
Jackson

Kimalishea Anderson, Knoxville, and Kandenna J. Greene, Goodlettsville

Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 53 full-time positions and five part-time secretarial positions. Nine full-time workers and the part-time staff members provide support to the regional councils on children and youth and carry out other regional and local Commission responsibilities. The other personnel are located in the Nashville central office. The organizational chart for the Commission indicates staff members at press time. ¶

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth



Budget

Actual Expenditures By Object Code/Funding Sources Fiscal Year 2001-02

	STATE	FEDERAL	CPORT	KIDS COUNT	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits					
Salaries/Longevity	\$591,775	\$368,592	\$588,654	\$76,456	\$1,625,477
Benefits	130,077	99,834	162,047	13,391	405,349
Total Personal Services and Benefits	\$721,852	\$468,426	\$750,701	\$89,846	\$2,030,826
Other Expenditures					
Travel	\$31,320	\$44,655	\$92,746	\$3,261	\$171,982
Printing, Duplicating, Binding	6,586	65,779	11,714	30,207	114,286
Communications & Shipping Costs	17,438	3,520	5,562	5,221	31,742
Maintenance, Repairs & Services	484	480	1,836	29	2,830
Professional Services & Dues	22,069	4,170	67,316	1,078	94,634
Professional Services. by Another State Agency	71,737	126,729	50,477	4,711	253,654
Supplies & Materials	14,278	23,701	37,768	7,193	82,939
Rentals & Insurance	105,986	32,476	103,788	11,158	253,410
Motor Vehicle Operation					0
Awards & Indemnities	986		55	253	1,294
Grants & Subsidies	4,172	5,413,105	1,420	123	5,418,820
Equipment					0
Total Other Expenditures	\$275,056	\$5,714,616	\$372,682	\$63,233	\$6,425,585
Total Expenditures by Source of Funds	\$996,908	\$6,183,042	\$1,123,383	\$153,079	\$8,456,410
Funding Sources					
State--Appropriations	\$996,908	\$406,825	\$304	\$53,300	1,457,337
Federal--O J J D P		4,853,717			4,853,717
Interdepartmental-- DCS		922,500	1,123,079		2,045,579
Other--Miscellaneous					0
Other--Kids Count-- Casey Foundation				99,779	99,779
Total Funding	\$996,908	\$6,183,042	\$1,123,383	\$153,079	\$8,456,412
Positions					
Full-Time	18	13	20	2	53
Part-Time	5	0	0	0	5
Seasonal	0	0	0	0	0
Total Positions	23	13	20	2	58

FY 2001 - 02 Expenditures By Program

Program	Total Expenditure s Of Programs	State Funding	Federal Funding	Interdepart - mental Funding	Other Funding
Advocacy: To provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families in Tennessee.	\$314,234	\$73,529	\$94,270	\$146,435	
Juvenile Justice: To implement the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee and efficiently and effectively administer state and federal Juvenile Justice funds.	6,099,660	417,585	4,647,075	1,035,000	
Children's Services Evaluation: To conduct the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (C-PORT) process, an independent evaluation of the delivery of services to children in state custody and their families.	864,144	43,207		820,937	
Regional Councils on Children and Youth: To develop and support Regional Councils on Children and Youth and to carry out appropriate regional activities related to the Department of Children's Services.	785,585	746,306	39,279		
Information Dissemination: To effectively implement the Tennessee KIDS COUNT project for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of data on indicators of the well being of children in Tennessee and to disseminate other appropriate information.	261,862	102,083	60,000		99,779
Coordination of Services: To engage in efforts to improve coordination in the delivery of services to children and families in Tennessee.	130,931	74,631	13,093	43,207	
Total Expenditures by Source of Funds	\$8,456,416	\$1,457,341	\$4,853,717	\$2,045,579	\$99,779

Advocacy

The primary mission of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth is to provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families. Major strategies for effective advocacy include extensive networking and efforts to assist in the coordination of services.

A number of Commission activities combine advocacy and coordination of services. Many of these activities also comply with specific statutory mandates governing the advocacy and coordination responsibilities. These responsibilities are to:

- 1 Make recommendations concerning establishment of priorities and needed improvements with respect to programs and services for children and youth;
- 2 Advocate and coordinate the efficient and effective development and enhancement of state, local, and regional programs and services for children and youth.

Children's Advocacy Days – 2002

More than 400 advocates attended the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's two-day 14th annual Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) held on March 5-6, 2001, in the War Memorial Auditorium. Each CAD participant received an information packet.

Advocates came together at Children's Advocacy Days to:

- 1 Meet with legislators to discuss relevant children and youth issues;
- 2 Observe legislative sessions;
- 3 Receive legislative updates;
- 4 Network with advocates from other parts of the state;
- 5 Hear updates on issues affecting children;
- 6 Present the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award;
- 7 Present the Youth Excellence Award; and
- 8 Present the Making Kids Count Media Award.

Commission Chairman Betty Cannon welcomed participants. Speakers on March 5 included John G. Morgan, state comptroller; Natasha Metcalf, commissioner, Department of Human Services; Patti van Eys, Ph.D., coordinator for Mental Health Services, Children's Health Initiative; Mary Walker, general counsel, Department of Children's Services; and Elisabeth Rukeyser, commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

A forum of major gubernatorial candidates, including Democrats Phil Bredesen, Randy Nichols, and Charles Smith; Republicans Jim Henry and Bob Tripp; and Independent Ed Sanders, completed the 2002 Children's Advocacy Days events on Wednesday, March 5.



Reginald Dewayne Taylor of Memphis was the winner of the second Youth Excellence Award honoring a young adult, who, after being involved in the court system as a juvenile, overcame personal obstacles and now serves his or her community. The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy

Award was presented to George Spain of Nashville for 40 years of service to children's mental health issues. Paula Wade and Richard Locker of the Memphis Commercial Appeal and Penny Bandy, Laura Long Martin, and Anna Garber, reporters for the *The (Sevierville) Mountain Press*, representing large and small markets respectively, were the winners of the 2001 Making KIDS COUNT print media awards. David Carroll of the WRCB Television, Channel 3 in Chattanooga, earned the Making KIDS COUNT Broadcast Media Award. George Hattaway, who was leaving the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, was recognized for 36 years of state service.

Committees, Task Forces, and Boards

A major strategy for advocacy and coordination is the participation of Commission staff on national, state, regional, and local committees, task forces, and boards. This involvement provides an opportunity for critical information sharing, networking, advocacy, and coordination.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

TCCY staff members served on nine national or Southeastern regional committees, task forces, and boards. These groups focused on issues of juvenile justice, early childhood education, health and human services, and family-centered medical services. National and Southeastern regional committees, task forces, and boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- 1 Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Self-Assessment Working Group, Baltimore;
- 2 Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference Planning Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Membership Committee, Government Relations Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- 3 Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- 4 Child Welfare League of America, Southeastern Regional Conference Planning Committee, Juvenile Justice Forum, Washington, D.C.;
- 5 United States Ombudsman Association, Conference Planning Committee, San Francisco.

State Organizations

Staff members participated on a total of 53 statewide committees, task forces, and boards that addressed a broad range of issues, including health, teen pregnancy, child welfare, mental health, child care, family assistance, juvenile justice, and broad-based children's needs. The statewide committees, task forces, or boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- 1 Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Advisory Committee;
- 2 Child Care Resource Center Advisory Board;
- 3 Children with Special Needs Steering Panel;
- 4 Children's Health Policy Makers' Discussion and Teleconference Planning Committee;
- 5 Developmental Disabilities Services Workgroup;
- 6 Early Child Health Outreach (ECHO);
- 7 Families First Working Group;
- 8 Health Resources and Services Administration Systems of Care State Council;
- 9 John B Advisory Committee;
- 10 Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition;
- 11 Kinship Advisory Board, Tennessee Department of Children's Services;
- 12 Mental Health Planning Council Children and Youth Committee;

- 13 Mental Health Planning Council TennCare Partners Roundtable Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Subcommittee;
- 14 Mental Health Planning Council TennCare Partners Roundtable;
- 15 Middle Tennessee Suicide Prevention Council;
- 16 Special Adolescent Populations Study Advisory Committee;
- 17 State Information Systems Managers (ISM) Events Committee;
- 18 State Information Systems Managers (ISM) Group;
- 19 State Technology Implementation Group (TIG);
- 20 Suicide Prevention Advisory Board;
- 21 Supreme Court Permanency Planning Commission;
- 22 Task Force on Co-Occurring Disorders, Region VI Work Group;
- 23 TennCare for Children Coordination Committee*;
- 24 TennCare Working Group and Data Sub-Committee;
- 25 Tennessee Association for Child Care;
- 26 Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Finance Committee*;
- 27 Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Organizational Development Committee;
- 28 Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Welfare Reform Reauthorization Committee;
- 29 Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare;
- 30 Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Advisory Council;
- 31 Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities;
- 32 Tennessee Department of Children Services Child and Family Service Review Advisory Committee;
- 33 Tennessee Department of Children Services Child Sexual Abuse Task Force;
- 34 Tennessee Department of Children Services Children's Justice Taskforce;
- 35 Tennessee Department of Children Services Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee;
- 36 Tennessee Department of Education Family Literacy Coalition;
- 37 Tennessee Department of Health Child Fatality Review Team;
- 38 Tennessee Department of Human Services Advocates Committee;
- 39 Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care Board of Review;
- 40 Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Planning Council;
- 41 Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Services Planning Committee;
- 42 Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities System of Care Council;
- 43 Tennessee Disabilities Training Network;
- 44 Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance, Tennessee State University Site Advisory Committee;
- 45 Tennessee State University-OBER DMC Focus Group;
- 46 Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network;
- 47 Tennessee Voices for Children Nominating Committee*;
- 48 Tennessee Voices for Children Public Policy Committee;
- 49 Tennessee Voices for Children;
- 50 Workforce Development Committee;
- 51 Yes-2-Kids Conference Committee;
- 52 Youth Court Advisory Board;
- 53 Youth Development Conference Committee

*TCCY staff served as chair.

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 52 regional committees, task forces, or boards. At the regional level, representatives of the Commission participated with a number of groups in almost every area of the state. Additionally, staff members also participated on many committees, task forces, and boards unique to individual regions. These regional groups addressed a range of issues, including child abuse, child care, education, Head Start, health, mental health, family assistance, foster care, adoptions, juvenile justice, substance abuse, and teen pregnancy. The committees, task forces, or boards in each region with relatively consistent staff representation are:

- 1 Department of Children's Services Regional Resource Management Group;
- 2 Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Regional Mental Health Planning Council.

Presentations and Displays

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth staff members made presentations and prepared displays on a variety of topics to a range of different groups and organizations. These presentations focused on Commission activities, advocacy, Commission priorities, and substantive issues. During fiscal year 2001-02, TCCY staff members made 92 presentations, two national, 34 statewide, 25 regional, and 31 local, to more than 3,456 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented 19 displays at conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings, government days, and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy


During the 2002 Legislative Session of the 102nd Tennessee General Assembly, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth took positions on 27 pieces of legislation in the areas of juvenile justice, child care, education, children's health care, and family custody law. While the Commission often supports the development of new programs and services for children, because of yearly budget shortages it focused first on opposing laws that it felt would be detrimental for the children of Tennessee.

This year the key issues surrounded legislation that would have delayed implementation of child-care reforms passed in previous years and laws that would have made a presumption of joint custody mandatory. The child care legislation, although passing out of standing committees in the Senate, was stalled in the House, allowing the previously approved reforms, such as tiered licensing and report cards on the quality of child care centers and lower adult-to-child ratios, to go into place. The parental custody legislation, through the intervention of TCCY staff and other advocates, was amended to ensure that the best interest of the child remained the primary focus of child custody determinations.

TCCY legislative staff also provided regional council members and child advocates with weekly

updates beginning February 22 and continuing throughout the extended legislative session. The updates and other information were made available statewide electronically, both through e-mail and posts to the TCCY web page; through the *Legislative Update*, which tracked the status of 134 bills; the *Legislative Report*, which provided bill summaries and tracked the status of 368 bills; and the *Legislative Summary*, with summaries of more than 100 laws enacted during this year's session. These bills affected children and families over the broad spectrum of policy issues from criminal law to family law, education to health care, and public finance to transportation.

In addition to our series of weekly reports, network members were provided a first-person, blow-by-blow account of the most salient points in each week's events, as well as alerts for the week ahead. The messages allowed TCCY staff to provide information about various policy proposals from the TCCY prospective. TCCY also provided Internet links to contact information on the Tennessee General Assembly website, including e-mail links, office addresses, and phone numbers, links to Printable Document Files of specific legislation or amendments under consideration, and links to other relevant advocacy groups, state agencies, or reports related to legislative policy issues. ■■



Juvenile Justice

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103(a)(1)(D) establishes the following Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) responsibilities in the juvenile justice arena: “To implement the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended; and to distribute, consistent with the purpose of the commission as set forth by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-102(a), such funds as the general assembly shall direct.”

Each state participating in the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 is required to have a state advisory group. In Tennessee, TCCY serves as the state advisory group responsible for the administration of funds received through the Act. It is important for TCCY to exercise the powers and duties designated in the Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103, which includes advocating for efficient, effective, and relevant programs and services for children and youth. TCCY also identifies problems and gaps in programs and services for children and families.

In addition to the requirement to have a state advisory group, a state must maintain compliance with the Act’s four core requirements for continued participation. Compliance with these requirements enables Tennessee to receive Federal Formula Grant funds to address delinquency prevention and intervention issues. The core requirements are to:

- 1 Deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO);
- 2 Remove children from adult jails;
- 3 Separate children from adult offenders; and
- 4 Address minority over-representation in secure confinement.

Another requirement for participation in the Act is the annual submission of a three-year plan or plan update to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). In fiscal year 2001-02 the Commission submitted a plan update that included a crime analysis of juvenile court referrals and adjudications categorized by race, gender, and specific offense. Minority over-representation in rural and metropolitan areas of Tennessee was also identified. The three-year plan included program areas to receive priority for JJDP Act funds. The program areas for this period included Delinquency Prevention, Minority Over-representation, Systems Improvement, Juvenile Court Services, and Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO).

Facilities/Program Monitoring

To assure compliance with the core requirements, TCCY conducts periodic on-site monitoring of all adult jails and lock-ups and all secure juvenile facilities in Tennessee, including juvenile detention centers, temporary holding resources, and training schools. Commission staff reviews records to determine the number of children detained and the circumstances of their detention.

In fiscal year 2001-02 Commission staff conducted 455 monitoring visits at 143 facilities. The Department of Finance and Administration monitors programs that receive state and federal funds. Additionally, TCCY staff conducted 63 on-site visits of federally funded programs to provide



technical assistance and project support. They also make sure that programs meet the goals and objectives specified in their contracts and that they comply with Title VI nondiscrimination policies.

TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 2001-02			
Number	Type of Program	Monitoring/On-site Frequency	Total Number of TCCY Monitoring/On-Site Activities
14	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA)	*	
95	State Supplement/ Reimbursement Accounts	*	
25	Federal Formula Grant Programs	Annually*	25
9	Title V Grants	Annually*	9
27	Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program	Annually*	27
1	Challenge Program	Annually*	1
1	Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		1
172		Subtotal	63
116	Jails and/or Lockups	Annually/Quarterly	131
12	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	144
15	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	180
143		Subtotal	455
315		Total	518

*The Department of Finance and Administration monitors these programs.

Compliance Monitoring Report

Each year TCCY submits to OJJDP a monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates. The 2001 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of 290 deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed was 399.

The violations were a result of children being held in secure confinement longer than the time limits specified in the Act. The reasons contributing to violations include, but are not limited to, the failure of parents to pick up their children, problems in record keeping at secure facilities, the failure of juvenile courts to properly follow violation of valid court order (VVCO) guidelines, and the failure of the Department of Children Services to find placements for children in a timely manner. However, the total violations for state fiscal year 2001 were less than the 390 violations for the year 2000 and significantly fewer than the 783 DSO violations in 1999. It is important to recognize that the cooperation of both state and local entities produced positive results.

Therefore, Tennessee continues to remain in compliance with the JJDP Act. This is a direct result of intense efforts of the TCCY staff and Commission members. In addition, collaborative efforts of the juvenile courts, detention facilities, temporary holding resources, and the Department of Children's

Services continue to impact the significant reduction of DSO violations during this reporting period.

In regard to the jail removal and separation core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Tennessee has remained in compliance since 1986. The Act has had a strong impact on Tennessee's juvenile justice system regarding children held in adult jails. The number of violations for children held in adult jails has been reduced from approximately 10,000 in 1980 to only 13 jail removal violations during the 2001 monitoring period. In the rare instances where juveniles were placed in adult facilities, they were inadequately separated from adult offenders only five times, a significant reduction from almost 3,800 violations in 1977.

Minority Over-Representation

One of the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 is to address minority over-representation (MOR) in secure confinement. Minority over-representation occurs when the "proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention facilities, secure correctional facilities, jails, and lock-ups who are members of minority groups...exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general population."

The State of Tennessee remains in compliance with the minority over-representation (MOR) core requirement of the JJDP Act by:

- 1 Collecting the data, which verifies a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement in rural and metropolitan areas of the state;
- 2 Educating local Tennessee communities regarding disproportionate minority confinement (DMC);
- 3 Funding an assessment study of minority over-representation in secure confinement in the Tennessee juvenile justice system;
- 4 Improving the data collection tool used to determine racial identity; and
- 5 Receiving Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) from Research and Evaluation Associates, Inc. regarding minority over-representation. The ITA team, consisting of Teresa Lurry, consultant from Port St. Lucie, Florida; Dr. Rod Ellis, University of Tennessee School of Social Work; and Dr. Oscar Miller, Tennessee State University, is working with TCCY staff on strategies to address and reduce the large numbers of minorities at all levels of the juvenile justice system.

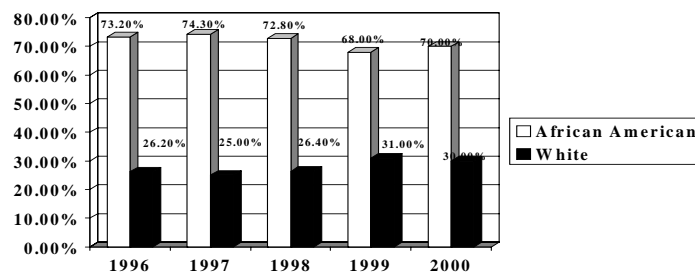
The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 works to address the minority over-representation issues at the state and local levels. The committee (See current membership list in this section) met eight times during fiscal year 2001-2002 to develop strategies to reduce DMC in problem areas. Local DMC Task Forces established in Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Jackson have had initial meeting(s) to form strong community collaborations to help minority children involved in the juvenile justice system.

For Tennessee as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 are African-American. Overall referrals of African-American youth to juvenile court had a significantly higher rate than White youth. In Tennessee, 70 percent of juveniles placed in secure detention facilities for calendar year 2000 were African-American. This was a 2 percent increase from 1999. Unfortunately, this increase demonstrates that minority over-representation still remains a major issue that must be addressed and

taken seriously by all Tennesseans, including state legislators, local community leaders, juvenile court judges and staff, law enforcement officials, school personnel, faith-based organizations, and parents or guardians.

Statewide transfers to adult court in 2000 had an index of 2.9 or 59 percent (over-representation) involving African-American youth and 0.5 or 41 percent (under representation) involving White youth. This is compared to a 1.0 index representing proportionate numbers in relation to percentage of the population each group represents. Therefore, African-American youth are almost three times more likely to be transferred to adult court than would be expected based on their representation in the juvenile population. Some of the data regarding minority over-representation follows.

Juveniles Confined in Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities Tennessee Statewide



Source: Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges CY1996-CY2000

As a result of these still alarming numbers during its strategic planning retreat in May 2001, the statewide DMC Task Force developed, a Request for Proposals (RFP) to research and assess DMC in the Tennessee juvenile justice system. As a result, the Tennessee State University Office of Business and Economic Research was awarded the research grant. The assessment project will be conducted in Blount, Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Shelby, and Washington counties. Dr. Soumen Ghosh is the principal investigator of the research team.

Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) Task Force Members*		
	West	
John DeBerry Chairman	Clergy/State Legislator	Shelby County
Morrie Noel	Juvenile Court	Shelby County
Lorenzo Caldwell	Clergy	Shelby County
John Hall	Service Provider	Shelby County
Bobby Nesbit	Service Provider	Southwest
	Middle	
Servella Terry	DCS	Mid-Cumberland
Yolanda Chapa	Head Start	Mid-Cumberland
Jaunita Veasy,	Black Children's Institute	Mid-Cumberland

Secretary		
Mark Thornton	Clergy	Mid-Cumberland
Liz Willette	Maury County Schools	South Central
	East	
Dennie Littlejohn, Vice Chairman	Administrator	East
Marion McKinney	Retired Social Worker	Northeast
Wilma Wiley	DCS	Southeast
Eugene Gary, Jr.	DCS	East
Dave Anderson, Sr.	DCS	East
Johnny Horne	TCCY Commission Member	Southeast
Dorothy Kincaid	Community Leader	East
Beverly McKeldin	Community Leader	Southeast
*At press time		

Federal Formula Grants

In addition to monitoring for compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, TCCY annually awards grants from funds provided through the Act. Federal Formula Grants are awarded for one year and are renewable for up to two additional years. Renewal is not automatic, and grantees must submit an application each year. If a project is approved for funding after the first year, the funding level for the second and third years will be 75 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the first year's budget.

Federal regulations require that funds be allocated for programs that are part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services, including collaborative efforts such as the Community Prevention Initiative. It is important that funded programs ensure that services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency are consistent with policies that focus on preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environments. TCCY gives preference to programs that provide direct services to youth. Also, these projects should focus on early intervention efforts for children at risk of developing emotional or behavioral problems because of physical or mental stress and abuse. In addition, TCCY encourages private and public partnerships in the delivery of services for the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency.

Tennessee received approximately \$1.25 million in Federal Formula Grant funds in fiscal year 2001-02. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention projects to ensure that youth who are at risk of committing offenses receive appropriate services. There was a delay in receiving the 2000 Federal Formula Grant funds because Tennessee was out of compliance in 1999 with the deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) core requirement of the JJDP Act. Once Tennessee came back into compliance with that core requirement, TCCY received all of the 2000 Federal Formula Grant funds in fiscal year 2001-2002. During this reporting period, grantees served more than 20,000 children.

TCCY staff provided grant-writing training and technical assistance to potential applicants for all federal grants it administers. In addition, an orientation session was conducted for grantees that were approved for funding. TCCY staff also provided technical assistance to agencies and organizations to assure successful implementation of programs.

Title V Grants

The 1992 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. TCCY holds training sessions for local units of government community teams to develop long-range planning for their neighborhoods. Local communities completed risk and resource assessments to determine effective strategies and specific programs for target populations. The training has been based on the *Communities That Care* model developed for Title V programs funded by OJJDP.

Unlike Federal Formula Grants, which may be awarded to individuals or single agencies, Title V funds must be given to local units of government. To be considered for funding, a community must demonstrate collaboration by the establishment of a multidisciplinary prevention policy board (PPB) and the development of a three-year plan for delinquency prevention. In addition, the local unit of government must provide a 50 percent cash or in-kind match. Also, to be eligible, the county must be in compliance with the mandates of the JJDP Act. Listed below are the local units of government that were awarded the Title V funds.

Title V Grantee	FY 2001-02 Award Amount
Carroll County	
Fayette County	
Hamilton County	
Hancock County	
Lincoln County	
Roane County	
Scott County	
Unicoi County	
Washington County	

In fiscal year 2001-02, TCCY continued its participation with the Tennessee departments of Health, Children's Services, and Education and the United Way in the Community Prevention Initiative for children. Title V programs and those funded by the Department of Health through the Community Prevention Initiative share similar philosophies and goals. To receive these funds, community collaboration must be demonstrated in the development of strategies to prevent negative behaviors and outcomes for children.

Challenge Activities

The purpose of the Challenge Activities Funds is to provide states with incentives to develop, adopt, and improve policies in one of 10 specific areas. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth chose to fund two Challenge Activities program areas. They include:

- 1 Activity B, developing and adopting policies and programs to provide access to counsel for

- all juveniles in the juvenile justice system to ensure that juveniles consult with counsel before waiving the right to counsel, and
- 2 Activity F, establishing and operating a state ombudsman office for children, youth, and families to investigate and resolve complaints relating to action, inaction, or decisions of providers of out-of-home care to children and youth. Tennessee received \$148,000 in fiscal year 2001 for Challenge Activities.

The program funded under Activity B is West Tennessee Legal Services (WTLS). This program worked with youth and families to provide access to legal counsel and understanding of their rights while involved in the juvenile justice system. A special emphasis was placed on juveniles with disabilities. The goals for the project included:

- 1 Providing a model for helping juveniles and families develop alternatives to the juvenile justice system;
- 2 Reducing commitments to state custody;
- 3 Diverting children out of the juvenile justice system; and
- 4 Organizing and using treatment resources for juveniles needing assistance in education, health care, mental health, or other areas of life.

During fiscal year 2001-02, more than 130 juveniles received direct service. More than 60 court appearances were made on behalf of the youth. WTLS also provided training on the rights of youth to attorneys in the area. This project continued to grow, and the demand for these services in the Madison County area increased. The courts regularly asked for help in getting youth access to services for education and treatment.

The TCCY Ombudsman program was funded under Activity F. This program helped to resolve concerns of parents, guardians, and agencies regarding children in state custody. The objectives of this program was to communicate with all parties involved in the child's case, investigate the issues of the individual making the referral, facilitate discussions between parties, and mediate resolutions that are in the best interest of the child. Additional information regarding the Ombudsman program is discussed later.

Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) Program

In fiscal year 1998, Congress authorized the attorney general to provide grants under the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program for use by states and units of local government to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. The Department of Children's Services (DCS) initially administered the JAIBG program for Tennessee. In October 2001, JAIBG program administration was transferred to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. For federal fiscal year 2000, Tennessee received \$4,126,000 in federal JAIBG dollars to be used for projects that reinforced accountability through a graduated sanctions system for crimes committed by juveniles. Grantees must submit an application to TCCY every year because renewal is not automatic.

Absent a waiver, each state must distribute not less than 75 percent of the state's allocation among units of local government in the state. In making this distribution, the state allocates to each unit of local government an amount, by federal formula, based on a combination of law enforcement expenditures for each unit of local government and the average annual number of violent crimes

reported by each unit of local government for the three most recent calendar years for which data are available.

There are two types of distribution for the JAIBG funds. They include local **Pass-Through** funds and **State-Allocated** funds. According to the federal formula calculations, all local jurisdictions that are eligible to receive at least \$5,000 can receive these funds if they request them. The amount for each unit of local government is determined by the state's percentage for pass-through funds. TCCY did not apply for a waiver; therefore, 75 percent of the JAIBG funds were passed to the units of local government. The remaining 25 percent were used by the state to benefit those areas that were not eligible to receive at least \$5,000. Grants were distributed through a request for proposals that focused on accountability and enhancing services for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Funds are available for the following 12 program purpose areas (a 10 percent cash match is required when applying for these funds, except for Purpose Area 1).

- 1 Purpose Area 1. Building, expanding, renovating, or operating temporary or permanent juvenile correction or detention facilities, including training of correctional personnel. **A 50 percent cash match is required for all construction costs.**
- 2 Purpose Area 2. Developing and administering accountability-based sanctions for juvenile offenders.
- 3 Purpose Area 3. Hiring additional juvenile court judges, probation officers, and court-appointed defenders and funding pre-trial services for juveniles, to ensure the smooth and expeditious administration of the juvenile justice system.
- 4 Purpose Area 4. Hiring additional prosecutors, so that more cases involving violent juvenile offenders can be prosecuted and backlogs reduced.
- 5 Purpose Area 5. Providing funding to enable prosecutors to address drug, gang, and youth violence problems more effectively.
- 6 Purpose Area 6. Providing funding for technology, equipment, and training to assist prosecutors in identifying and expediting the prosecution of violent juvenile offenders.
- 7 Purpose Area 7. Providing funding to enable juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers to be more effective and efficient in holding juvenile offenders accountable and reducing recidivism.
- 8 Purpose Area 8. Establishing court-based juvenile justice programs that target young firearms offenders through the establishment of juvenile gun courts for the adjudication and prosecution of juvenile firearms offenders.
- 9 Purpose Area 9. Establishing drug court programs for juveniles so as to provide continuing judicial supervision over juvenile offenders with substance abuse problems and to provide the integrated administration of other sanctions and services.
- 10 Purpose Area 10. Establishing and maintaining interagency information-sharing programs that enable the juvenile and criminal justice system, schools, and social service agencies to make more informed decisions regarding the early identification, control, supervision, and treatment of juveniles who repeatedly commit serious delinquent or criminal acts.
- 11 Purpose Area 11. Establishing and maintaining accountability-based programs that work with juvenile offenders who are referred by law enforcement agencies, or that are designed, in cooperation with law enforcement officials, to protect students and school personnel from drug, gang, and youth violence.
- 12 Purpose Area 12. Implementing a policy of controlled substance testing for appropriate categories of juveniles within the juvenile justice system.

As a result of the state budget crisis, State Supplement funds were not available for the fourth quarter of the state fiscal year. Since it was very important to keep juvenile court services funded until July 1, 2002, TCCY gave a one-time contribution of \$237,500 from JAIBG funds to cover the state supplement distributions for the fourth quarter of the state fiscal year. Through the advocacy efforts of TCCY staff, juvenile court judges, and other concerned citizens, the State Supplement Account was restored to recurring funds for the FY 2003 state budget.

2001-2002 JAIBG Grantees and Fund Distribution

Subrecipient Name

<u>State Allocated Funds</u>	Amount
Bedford County	\$100,000
Behavioral Health Initiatives	\$100,000
Bradley County (X-Cel Academy)	\$200,000
Family Guidance Training Institute Inc	\$125,000
Frontier Health	\$302,479
Helen Ross McNabb Center Inc	\$125,000
Lifecare Family Services	\$137,350
Madison County Government	\$500,000
Ridgeview Center	\$150,000
Southeast TN Human Resource Agency	\$100,000
Youth Villages	\$200,000
TN Council on Juvenile & Family Court Judges	\$110,000

Pass-Through Funds

Bradley County	\$19,839
City of Bristol	\$7,678
City of Knoxville	\$67,507
Hamilton County	\$46,984
Knox County	\$73,994
Madison County	\$42,467
Metro-Davidson County	\$423,645
Montgomery County	\$38,088
Putnam County	\$12,579
Sevier County	\$6,340
Shelby County	\$618,023
Sullivan County	\$30,270
Sumner County	\$23,416
Williamson County	\$21,673
Wilson County	\$7,879

Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL)

Adolescence marks the age in which experimentation with mood altering substances is most active. Underage drinking is America's number one youth drug problem, killing six and half times more people younger than the age of 21 than all other illicit drugs combined. Alcohol causes serious problems in young people, including death, poor health, and weak academic performance.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administration (SAMHSA), in the 2001 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), information regarding Tennessee showed that:

- 1 44.2 percent of youth ages 12 to 17 reported using alcohol one or more times during the past 30 days before the assessment;
- 2 27.3 percent of youth ages 12 to 17 reported having a great risk of having five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage once or twice a week

In order to combat underage drinking, in 1999 Congress appropriated \$360,000 to each state to address and reduce the use and sale of alcohol to minors. Since its inception, the Department of Children's Services (DCS) has administered the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) program in Tennessee. The funds were given to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for its program to target establishments selling alcohol to minors and educate youth regarding alcohol and its effects. Their activities consisted of the following programs and goals:

Youth in Action (YIA) Program

- 1 The significant increase in knowledge regarding alcohol and its effects;
- 2 An increase in youth activism in the state concerning underage consumption;
- 3 An increase in youth believing that they have the control and ability to make life-altering decisions;
- 4 An increased ability to dispel alcohol-related myths.

Youth Leadership Statewide Training

- 1 To provide young people with the skills necessary to return to their individual communities in order to make changes in attitudes, policies, and/or laws that condone underage drinking and other drug use;
- 2 To develop the skill necessary to implement effective programs that help reduce social and retail availability of alcohol to minors.

Compliance Measures

- 1 Reduce the sale and availability of alcohol to minors.

Zero Tolerance/Shoulder Tap

- 2 Reduce third party transactions;
- 3 Decrease the number of adults willing to purchase alcohol for minors;
- 4 Educate the community and retail establishments of the laws governing third party transactions.

Media Awareness

- 1 Increase awareness about the consequences of underage drinking and help young people understand the laws in their state;
- 2 Increase youth's concept that adolescents do have control over their futures through the choices they make;
- 3 Increase the ability of youth to dispel alcohol related myths;
- 4 Increase in youth activism in the state regarding underage alcohol consumption.

In February 2002, the administrative responsibility for the EUDL program was transferred to TCCY. A request for proposals was developed, and training on the program was given to agencies and organizations (including MADD) that were interested in reducing the sale and use of alcohol.

Program objectives for a statewide strategic plan included:

- 1 To have an underage drinking coalition in each comprehensive community program with a special emphasis on increasing law enforcement participation.
- 2 To demonstrate collaborative efforts with law enforcement, Department of Health, Department of Safety, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, schools, etc.
- 3 To develop youth leadership and participation in planning and program activities at the state and local levels.

Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account

The Commission administers a combination of state (\$18,000) and federal (\$117,000) JJDP Act funds to provide financial assistance to counties for removing children from adult jails. These funds can be used to provide services to children who meet the criteria of TCA 37-1-114(c), which describes appropriate placement of children in secure facilities. Allowable services include, but are not limited to, the following programs: attendant care services, emergency transportation, emergency shelter care and foster care, temporary holding, and secure detention. In fiscal year 2001-02 TCCY contracted with 51 counties for the use of Reimbursement Account funds.

Each county accepting these funds must develop and submit local rules and procedures for each service provided. Account funds can only be used to provide services to children who are taken into custody in a county that did not operate a secure detention facility in 1983. Counties that established secure detention centers since the passage of legislation in 1983, which prohibited the placement of children in adult jails, are eligible for reimbursement for non-secure placements only. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the grants.

Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account	
County	Reimbursement Amount
Anderson	\$7,000
Bedford	\$4,500
Bledsoe	\$600
Blount	\$12,000
Campbell	\$300
Cannon	\$300
Carter	\$5,100
Cheatham	\$600
Claiborne	\$500
Cocke	\$3,000
Coffee	\$2,000
Crockett	\$1,500
Dickson	\$8,000
Fayette	\$700
Gibson	\$1,300
Giles	\$900
Greene	\$1,000
Grundy	\$300
Hamblen	\$8,200
Hancock	\$300
Hardeman	\$1,000
Hardin	\$300
Hawkins	\$8,000
Haywood	\$300
Henderson	\$800
Hickman	\$300
Humphreys	\$800
Jackson	\$300
Jefferson	\$2,400
Johnson	\$1,500
Lauderdale	\$3,000
Lewis	\$400
Loudon	\$3,000
Macon	\$300
Marion	\$5,400
Marshall	\$1,500
Maury	\$5,000
McMinn	\$3,200
McNairy	\$400
Montgomery	\$4,700
Polk	\$300
Roane	\$1,000
Robertson	\$2,000
Sequatchie	\$300
Sevier	\$4,700
Smith	\$300
Sullivan	\$12,000
Unicoi	\$1,000
Warren	\$400
Washington	\$12,000
Wayne	\$300
Total	\$135,000

State Juvenile Justice Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services as provided by TCA 37-1-162. In fiscal year 2001-02, each county received \$10,000. In counties with more than one juvenile court, each court is entitled to an equitable share of the county's allocation. To receive the funds, the juvenile court must have at least one full- or part-time youth services officer (YSO) who is appointed and supervised by the juvenile court judge. The youth services officer must meet identified educational requirements (60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of undergraduate credit from an accredited college or university in a social service-related field) and receive training annually (40 hours during the first year of employment and 20 hours of training during each subsequent year).

State supplement funds cannot be used to pay salaries or expenses of juvenile court judges or for construction or remodeling of adult facilities. In fiscal year 2001-02, all 95 counties used approximately 85 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or other staff to enhance the services of the court. The next largest use of the funds was for training court staff. Use of these funds can vary as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

TCCY also administers state funds for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs in Tennessee. The purpose of the CASA programs is to recruit, train, and supervise court-approved volunteers. These volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected, or dependent children and other children who are placed out of their homes by the court. CASA volunteers assist the court by collecting background information, preparing reports for the court, and participating in case reviews. The CASA volunteer works with the court and other agencies to ensure that a permanent placement is found as quickly as possible and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to meet the needs of these children.

Each year, TCCY seeks to increase the number of CASA programs by recommending additional dollars in budget recommendations to the governor and including an increase in the agency's annual budget request. In fiscal year 2001-02, state CASA funds provided services for more than 3,800 children in Anderson, Blount, Davidson, Hamblen, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, and Wilson counties. Each county received \$15,000.

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY

Grant Period: 10/1/00 - 9/30/01

Grantee	By Program Category	Amount
	Location	
	Compliance Monitoring	
TCCY Monitoring	*Nashville	\$75,000
	DSO	
Boys to Men	Johnson City	\$19,954
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department.	Chattanooga	\$20,000
U.T. College of Human Ecology	Martin	\$20,000
Exchange Club Family Center (Memphis)	Memphis	\$22,742
Crittenton Services, Inc.	Nashville	\$30,000
23rd District Juvenile Advocates Inc	Ashland City	\$ 6,337
Academic Achievement Solutions	Clarksville	\$15,750
Buddies of Nashville (Putnam)	Cookeville	\$19,350
Buddies of Wilson	Lebanon	\$28,102
Children & Family Services, Inc	Covington	\$20,000
Community Resource Center-Haywood County	Brownsville	\$24,750
Exchange Club Family Center	Nashville	\$13,247
Johnson City Schools	Johnson City	\$26,098
Kingsport Housing Authority	Kingsport	\$22,905
Knox County Schools	Knoxville	\$23,386
Mid South VORP	Hohenwald	\$15,000
The Carpetbag Theatre	Knoxville	\$20,000
The Potter's House	Lebanon	\$20,000
	Juvenile Courts	
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	\$17,060
Hardeman County Juvenile Court	Bolivar	\$22,477
Johnson City Schools Juvenile Court	Johnson City	\$30,000
TCJFCJ (Information Systems)	Nashville*	\$23,000
TCJFCJ (Training)	Nashville*	\$50,000
	Title V Grantees	
Carroll Academy	Huntingdon	\$18,600
Lincoln County Schools	Fayetteville	\$85,388
Fayette County Schools	Somerville	\$97,250
Hamilton County Government	Chattanooga	\$89,067
Hancock County Government	Tazewell	\$79,163
Roane County Schools	Harriman	\$25,315
Unicoi County Schools	Erwin	\$135,845
	Challenge Grantee:	
West Tennessee Legal Services	Jackson	\$72,500
Total Grants		\$1,188,286

*Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope is statewide.

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY**Grant Period: 10/1/01-9/30/02****By Program Category**

Grantee	Location	Amount
TCCY Monitoring	*Nashville	\$80,000
Compliance Monitoring		
Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders		
Wilson County Government	Lebanon	\$60,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Children & Family Services	Covington	\$40,000
Martha O'Bryan Center	Nashville	\$36,195
SOULSVILLE	Memphis	\$30,800
University of Tennessee Chattanooga	Chattanooga	\$58,911
Tennessee State University, OBER, College of Business	Nashville	\$93,286
YMCA Metro/Knoxville	Knoxville	\$58,000
Delinquency Prevention		
Anderson County Board of Education	Clinton	\$59,953
Apostolic Faith Church of Jesus Christ	Dyersburg	\$47,784
Battered Women, Inc	Crossville	\$43,243
Buddies of Wilson	Lebanon	\$18,735
Center for Youth Issues-Nashville, Inc.	Nashville	\$23,032
Chattanooga Kids on the Block	Chattanooga	\$11,681
Community Mediation Center-Knoxville	Knoxville	\$32,532
East TN Community Services Agency	Knoxville	\$60,000
Hancock County Board of Education	Sneedville	\$47,078
HHLC/Kingsport Housing	Kingsport	\$15,270
Johnson City Schools GLAD	Johnson City	\$17,399
Knox County Schools	Knoxville	\$18,924
Lewis County-Mid South VORP	Hohenwald	\$10,000
Mediation Services of Putnam County	Cookeville	\$40,000
Putnam County Board of Education	Cookeville	\$45,000
R.E.A.C.H.	Woodbury	\$32,000
Teen PEACE	Nashville	\$40,359
YMCA Metro/Chattanooga	Chattanooga	\$60,000
Systems Improvement		
TCJFCJ Information Systems	Nashville*	\$10,700
TCJFCJ Training	Nashville*	\$62,203
Juvenile Court Services		
DeKalb County Government	Smithville	\$22,000
Dyer County Juvenile Court	Dyersburg	\$35,738
Hardeman County Government	Bolivar	\$14,985
Jefferson County Juvenile Court	Dandridge	\$29,750
Johnson City Schools-Juvenile Court	Johnson City	\$20,000
Lauderdale County Juvenile Court	Ripley	\$36,424
Morgan County Juvenile Court	Wartburg	\$ 6,500
Total Amount of Grants		\$1,318,482

Transfer Hearings

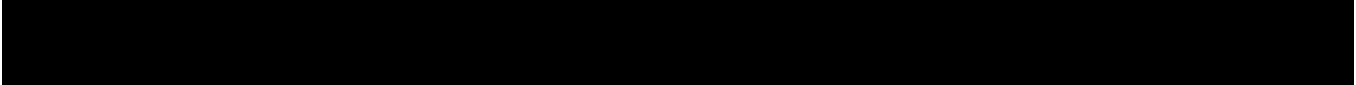
Tennessee Code Annotated 33-3-401 establishes procedures for the involuntary transfer of youth between the departments of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD) and Children's Services (DCS). A transfer hearing is scheduled before a five-person review panel composed of two representatives each from MHDD and DCS and one representative from the Commission.

A transfer hearing is called when:

1. The transferee objects to a transfer;
2. An emergency transfer is needed; or,
3. A transferee is being returned.

During fiscal year 2001-02, 13 hearings were held regarding eight children. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility. All children involved in the hearings were males.

Eleven of the 13 transfer hearings were held at the Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute in Nashville; the other two were held at Western Mental Health Institute in Bolivar. ■■



CPORT

During fiscal year 2001-02 TCCY continued to implement the **Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT)** evaluation. This process evaluates the service delivery system designed for children and their families involved in state custody. The ultimate goal of CPORT is to promote positive system change by providing qualitative and quantitative information for a process of continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families.

The CPORT evaluation collects and organizes essential information about the population of children served, the needs of the children and families, and the system's ability to adequately perform or function to meet the needs of the children and families it serves. The pertinent information is collected using a special instrument called a protocol. The protocol is a booklet containing a series of in-depth, structured interviews. Each interview contains a set of questions regarding the status of the child and family, the functions of the service delivery system, demographics, TennCare implementation, and Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT).

Structured interviews were conducted with the following: child (if age appropriate), parent(s), custodial department worker(s), caregiver(s) (foster parent or direct care staff in a group facility), court representative(s), teacher(s), and other relevant service providers. The case records were reviewed, and Permanency Plans, social histories, court orders, and other pertinent reports were copied and reviewed. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

The CPORT evaluation, conducted on a calendar-year basis as opposed to a fiscal year, began its eighth year of reviews February 12, 2001, and involved 45 to 60 randomly selected cases in each of the 12 Department of Children's Services (DCS) Community Services Agency regions. Data for 2001 were reflective of the population of children in the custody of DCS. By December 7, 2001, 580 cases were reviewed. These data were then summarized regionally and compared to the cases randomly selected for statewide analysis.

The statewide sample consisted of 349 child custody cases designed to be statistically significant at the 95 percent level of confidence with +/-5 percent accuracy. Additionally, regional samples were designed to be statistically significant at the 85 percent level of confidence with +/-15 percent accuracy.

In 2001, 12 full-time CPORT case reviewers determined the status of children and families being served. Nine new external reviewers, representing a variety of departments and providers, and seven TCCY staff members were trained to perform CPORT intensive case reviews.



External reviewers were staff members from various direct service agencies, including private providers, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the TennCare Consumer Advocacy Program.

One external-reviewer training workshop was held in Nashville on January 23-26, 2001.

Reviewer training required intensive instruction and fieldwork preparation activities focusing on the administration of the CPORT protocol and the procedures required for its use. In addition, basic techniques of interviewing were taught, as well as standards of evaluation and research principles. The full-time case reviewers also spent time in training sessions to review protocol revisions and system changes in order to adequately train external reviewers. A modified training was held on January 29, 2001, to train experienced external reviewers on all revisions. Approximately 27 participants, plus TCCY staff, attended training.

Necessary revisions and refinements were made to the CPORT protocol and process. This is an integral part of the process. The evaluation suggests improvements in the delivery of services to children and families, and CPORT continually improves the data-gathering process.

The Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL) and the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) provide supplemental assessments to the CPORT review process. These assessment tools were administered during the review process. The CBCL was developed by Thomas M. Achenbach and provided a behavior-rating scale, which assessed behavior problems and social competencies of the children reviewed. The CAFAS was developed by Kay Hodges and was used to assess a child's psychosocial functioning. It has been adopted by several other states for evaluating state-served children.

The CPORT evaluation documented the adequacy of the status of the child and family and how the system was functioning to meet the needs of the child by providing qualitative and quantitative data for continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families. The quantitative data were a result of an examination of 13 status indicators for the child and family and 17 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. The indicators for determining the status of the child and family and for determining the adequacy of service system functions were established by a Design Team representing the departments of Education (DOE), Finance and Administration (F&A), Health (DOH), Human Services (DHS), Mental Health and Mental Retardation (now MHDD), Youth Development (now assimilated into DCS); Assessment and Care Coordination Team (ACCT); Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ); service providers; and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work (UTCSW). Its function was to develop the specifications for the CPORT evaluation.

The following 13 status indicators were examined for the child and family. Design Team members agreed the indicators with asterisks must be found positive for an overall adequate finding regarding the status of the child and family. The indicators are:

1. Safety of the child and community; *
2. Emotional well-being*;
3. Physical well-being*;
4. Caregiver functioning*;
5. Stable home;
6. Permanence;
7. Appropriateness of placement;
8. Educational and vocational progress;
9. Family unification;
10. Independent living, if 13 years of age or older;

11. Family satisfaction;
12. Child satisfaction; and
13. Overall status of child and family.

The reviewers evaluated the following 17 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. Once again, the functions or capabilities with the asterisks must have been found positive for an overall adequate finding for the system. The functions or capabilities are:

1. Assessment of needs*;
2. Long-term view for services*;
3. Child participation*;
4. Family participation*;
5. Service plan design*;
6. Service plan implementation*;
7. Service coordination*;
8. Monitoring change*;
9. Advocacy;
10. Early child and family intervention;
11. Home and community resources;
12. Placement resources;
13. Supportive interventions for staying or returning home;
14. Urgency response;
15. Progress achieved – child;
16. Progress achieved – family; and
17. Overall adequacy of services.

Research standards and guidelines specify the importance of reporting results to all research participants, so Exit Conferences were scheduled in each region following the review to report the data-gathering results. A PowerPoint presentation illustrating the data with charts and graphs and a qualitative report summarizing specific strengths, noteworthy accomplishments, and weaknesses of the system were provided.

The participants in the review process, such as direct service staff; supervisory and management personnel; social counselors and case managers from DCS, CSA, MHDD, and DOE; placements; and juvenile courts attended. The average attendance at a CPORT Exit Conference per region was approximately 29 professionals. Statewide, approximately 343 professionals attended. Additional state agency administrative staff, legislators, and child advocates also were provided copies of the CPORT results.

For calendar year 2001, CPORT reported the following data on children in state custody:

- 1 58 percent of the total petitions were filed by Department of Children's Services/Department of Human Services; followed by law enforcement (13 percent) and juvenile courts (11 percent);
- 2 72 percent of the children were adjudicated dependent; 21 percent, delinquent; and 7 percent, unruly;
- 3 29 percent of the children were in custody primarily due to neglect by caretaker, and 33 percent because of child's behavior problems;
- 4 40 percent were in a foster placement (including regular and therapeutic custodial department foster homes and regular and therapeutic contracted foster homes); 28 percent were in a

- group placement (any congregate living environment); 25 percent were with birth or adoptive parents or other relatives; 7 percent were on runaway status;
- 5 57 percent were 13 years or older; 20 percent were 6 to 12 years; 23 percent were newborns to age 5;
- 6 55 percent of the children were White; 36 percent African-American; 9 percent were categorized as “other” (includes Asian-American, Hispanic, and biracial);
- 7 55 percent of the children were male; 45 percent were female; those adjudicated dependent/neglect were 50 percent male; 46 percent female; children adjudicated unruly were 43 percent male, 57 percent female; those adjudicated delinquent were 82 percent male, 18 percent female;
- 8 45 percent of the children came from single-parent families where the mother was the head of the household;
- 9 61 percent of the children had parents who were or had been incarcerated; 22 percent involved the father; 16 percent of the families involved the mother, and 23 percent involved both parents;
- 10 Almost all children, 95 percent, were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.

While most children were appropriate for custody, approximately 30 percent remained in custody too long, an increase from 28 percent in 2000 and from 26 percent in 1999. Almost half the children in custody too long needed either termination of parental rights or to complete adoption. The larger percentage of children who needed to complete adoption or needed termination of parental rights flipped back and forth in 1998, 1999, and 2000. In 2001 they were equally divided. Almost half of the children needing termination of parental rights or needing to complete adoption were ages 6 to 12.

For 2001, children and family conditions that possibly contributed to the risk of entering or remaining in custody were categorized under “Critical Issues.” These are issues characteristic of children and their families that influence the need for services.

Critical Issues for the Child

All Cases



Critical Issues for the Child

All Cases



All these issues contributed to the child's lack of emotional and physical well-being and to the need for the system to address them in the form of supportive services for both the child and the family.

Strengths Identified Statewide in 2001 CPORT Findings

- 1 Most children were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.
- 2 Efforts were made to place siblings together.
- 3 Most children were in the least restrictive, most appropriate placement to meet their needs.
- 4 The majority of children were in placements close to home or in the CSA region.
- 5 In most cases the TNKIDS extract contained accurate information.
- 6 The majority of foster homes were high quality and very committed to children, and many were willing to adopt.
- 7 Most children were receiving current Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment services.
- 8 Substantial services had been provided in an effort to prevent custody.
- 9 Most children needing special education services were receiving them.
- 10 There was an overall reduction in children experiencing lengthy stays (30 days or more) in detention/emergency shelter/diagnostic shelter awaiting a placement.

Weaknesses Identified Statewide in 2001 CPORT Findings

- 1 The assessment of needs identified for children/families was often inadequate.
- 2 Many Permanency Plans were inadequate, not addressing current issues/service needs of the child and family.
- 3 Service coordination and communication between various system components were often inadequate.

- 4 Many children experienced multiple placements (four or more).
- 5 Almost half the children had experienced a change in case managers within the past 12 months, as many case managers had 12 months or less experience, and other case managers had been reassigned.
- 6 Many children stayed in custody too long.
- 7 Many case managers carried caseloads of 25 or more.
- 8 Truancy or other school problems were major factors contributing to custody for a number of school-age children.
- 9 A number of children experienced multiple custodies, in some cases three or more times.
- 10 A number of children received in-home services/crisis intervention but still entered custody.

CPORT Findings on the Status of the Child/Family Reported as Percents								
	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01
Cases reviewed in an overall positive status	74	75	79	83	81	87	84	84
Safety of children positive	91	93	92	93	95	95	93	93
Children's physical well-being addressed	95	94	96	95	99	98	97	95
Children placed with adequate caregivers	90	92	91	94	94	96	93	94
The child's emotional well-being was being addressed	78	78	82	84	85	90	88	87
Families were receiving services to remain intact or to reunify with children	58	62	66	68	60	74	80	80
Families were satisfied with services received	85	59	67	69	65	70	68	57

The overall status of the child/family was 84 percent positive in 2001 as it was in 2000, a decrease from 87 percent in 1999, but higher than previous years. Children placed with adequate caregivers, safety, and physical well-being of children remained strengths.

The emotional well-being of the child had improved from 1994 (78 percent) until 1999 (90 percent). This indicator decreased slightly each year since then, to 88 percent in 2000 and again to 87 percent in 2001. The emotional well-being indicator continues to be the primary factor in defaulting the overall status of the child to negative.

Children who were rated negative in emotional well-being most frequently were in need of treatment because of issues related to abandonment, separation and attachment, grief and loss, and/or sexual or physical abuse. Services to address these issues were not always being provided, and/or not recognized as treatment needs. Many children with a history of sexual or physical abuse or behavior problems needed psychological evaluations; however, they had not received them because the need was not recognized so the evaluations had not been requested. Consequently, children were not always able to access needed mental health services.

CPORT results indicate improvements in a more focused approach in providing services to families, but family satisfaction appeared to be the greatest overall deficiency, at 57 percent, down from 68 percent in 2000, and the lowest satisfaction rating yet. Families least satisfied were those with children adjudicated unruly. In some regions across the state, case managers expressed the need for

training in how to engage families. Families least likely to achieve progress were those families with children residing in foster placements. Children placed at home with their families were least likely to have an adequate permanency plan to address their needs, but more likely in 2001 to have an adequate assessment of their needs. Forty-three percent of the families were not satisfied with the system because they were not receiving appropriate services at the level needed in a timely manner.

CPORT Findings on Adequacy of Service System Functions Reported as Percents							
	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01
Service system functioned adequately to meet needs of child/family	40	46	51	33	46	42	39
Assessment of needs of child/family	80	86	86	73	70	68	65
Plan of Care design	63	71	72	48	63	63	58
Service plan implementation	66	67	73	69	79	78	79
Service coordination	61	65	70	59	67	71	69
Monitoring/change	61	66	72	60	74	80	84
Supportive intervention for children to stay or return home	64	65	72	64	76	76	81
Progress achieved by family	50	56	56	52	55	59	55

Overall, the system performed adequately 39 percent of the time, a decrease from 42 percent in 2000, which had been a decrease from 46 percent in 1999. While the system's ability to identify child and family problems had been a strength from 1995 to 1997, this performance area began to decline in 1998 and continued to decline to 65 percent in 2001, the lowest performance ever on this indicator. These results mean that the assessment of needs was inadequate for one-third of the children in custody and/or their parents. The problems included incomplete social histories or no social histories; children needing psychological evaluations but not receiving them; and/or children not receiving appropriate follow-up evaluations, such as developmental, speech and language, alcohol and drug, and psycho-educational assessments.

Service plan design (58 percent adequate) decreased from last year and continued to be the weakest indicator contributing to the overall system inadequacy. The permanency plans failed to address child or family needs, were out of date, contained inappropriate goals, were not individualized, or listed inappropriate services or strategies to obtain desired outcomes for children and families. In a few cases there was no plan. Service plan design was weakest for children adjudicated dependent neglect.

Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) Findings Summary

Among the cases reviewed, 274 eligible cases had completed CAFAS assessment. Although many of the children were rated as functioning in the average range for their age for specific areas, 66 percent demonstrated some type of impairment in at least one area. Forty-six percent of the children demonstrated some type of impairment in at least two or more areas. Forty-three percent were rated with moderate or severe impairment in at least one area. Among the cases reviewed, the two domains with the most problems in functioning reported were role performance (the effectiveness with which the child fulfills the roles most relevant to his or her place in the community) and

behavior.


Overall, the CAFAS total scores indicated the following treatment needs for the sample population of children and youth in state care: 44 percent needed supportive intervention; 25 percent, short-term treatment (up to six months); 15 percent, periodic treatment over a six- to 24-month period; and 16 percent, long-term treatment (one to five years). This indicates a significant proportion of children needing long-term care.

Thirty-seven percent of the children had a formal mental health diagnosis reported, and, of these, many were also rated with moderate or severe impairment in psychosocial functioning. Twenty-one percent of the CAFAS sample could be classified as seriously emotionally disturbed (SED).

2002 CPORT Reviews

In late 2001 the CPORT protocol was revised, and in 2002 case reviewers were trained on the new protocol as well as system changes. Two modified training workshops were conducted January 28 and January 31, 2002. The modified training included TCCY staff and past external reviewers

Three external-reviewer training workshops were held in two of the three grand regions of the state: one in East Tennessee on January 21-23, 2002; one in the Southeast region on February 25-27, 2002; and one in Davidson County on April 15-17, 2002. More than 11 new external reviewers were trained to implement the review process.




Regional Councils

Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-106 requires the Commission on Children and Youth to organize a regional council on children and youth in each of the state's nine development districts. It establishes the councils as the ongoing communication link between the Commission and regional and local areas in Tennessee. The statute requires one locally based staff person for each regional council and identifies the following duties of the councils:

- 1 To provide for mutual exchange of information and networking among service providers, advocates, and elected officials;
- 2 To educate council members, officials, others involved in services for children and youth, and the general public concerning the needs and problems of children and youth in the region and the state;
- 3 To coordinate regional and local efforts between public and private service providers to enhance services for children and youth;
- 4 To advocate for legislation, policies, and programs at the local and regional level to promote and protect the health, well-being, and development of children and youth; and
- 5 To collect, compile, and distribute data and to make recommendations of the needs and problems of children and youth.

In fiscal year 2002-3, 3,100 community representatives and professionals were members of the nine regional councils. The information below presents the nine regions and the regional coordinators. Summary information about each council is presented on the following pages.

TCCY Regional Councils and the Coordinators

Dana Cobb Northwest Council P.O. Box 586 Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-4243 FAX: (731) 986-3200 Dana.Cobb@state.tn.us	Jo Stanley Mid-Cumberland Council Andrew Johnson Tower, 9th Fl. 710 James Robertson Pky. Nashville, TN 37243-0800 (615) 532-1579 (615) 741-5956 (Fax) Jo.Stanley@state.tn.us	Kathy Daniels Upper Cumberland Nashville State Tech Cookeville Center 1000 Neal Street Cookeville, TN 38506 (931) 520-4445 (931) 520-0017 (Fax) Kathy.Daniels@state.tn.us	Robert Smith East Tennessee 531 Henley St., Suite 735 Knoxville, TN 37902 (865) 594-6658 (Voice & Fax) Robert.E.Smith@state.tn.us	Diane Wise Northeast Council 1233 Southwest Ave., Extension Johnson City, TN 37604 (423) 979-3200 Ext. 105 (423) 979-3267 (Fax) Diane.Wise@state.tn.us
				
Gwendolyn Glenn Memphis/Shelby County Council 170 North Main Street Memphis, TN 38103 (901) 543-7657 (901) 543-6462 (Fax) Gwendolyn.Glenn@state.tn.us	Rodger Jowers Southwest Council Lowell Thomas Bldg. Box 13 225 Martin Luther King Drive Jackson, TN 38301 (731) 423-6545 (731) 423-6612 (Fax) Rodger.Jowers@state.tn.us	Elaine Williams South Central Council Post Office Box 397 Columbia, TN 38402-0397 (931) 388-1053 (931) 381-2053 Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us	Marilyn Davis Southeast Council 540 McCallie Avenue, Ste. 643 Chattanooga, TN 37402 (423) 634-6210 (423) 634-3094 (Fax) Marilyn.Davis@state.tn.us	

Northeast Tennessee Council On Children And Youth

Coordinator: Diane Wise
1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension
Johnson City, TN 37604
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Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Council has 384 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Anita Kilbourne-Greer, Advocate
Past President	Mark Sirois, Johnson City Police Bureau
Vice President	Pam King, Mountain State Health Alliance
President Elect	Kay Freer, Holston Home For Children
Secretary	Amy Harris, Department of Children's Services
Treasurer	Glenda McCracken, Johnson City Schools

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees And Chairs

Legislative	Teresa Bohannon, First Tennessee Human Resource Agency Michelle Hurley, Frontier Health
Juvenile Justice	Renee Pickering, Greene County Juvenile Court
Child and Family	Michael Forrester, Coalition for Kids
Membership/Nominating	Sandi Fisher, Northeast Tennessee Community Services Agency
Hospitality/Public Relations	Patty Neas, Johnson City Schools Bonnie Jones, East Tennessee State University
Regional Advocacy	Patricia Miller, Communities in Schools

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings And Topics

September 21, 2001	Disproportionate Minority Confinement
November 16, 2001	Sexual Predators: Who Are They? Where Are They?
February 15, 2002	How to Love Your Teen
May 10, 2002	Working With the Hostile Client

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

November 16, 2001	Sexual Predators – Seminar
November 30, 2001	Lunch for Our Juvenile Court Judges
February 1, 2002	Breakfast for Our Legislators
February 15, 2002	How to Love Your Teen – Seminar
March 5-6, 2002	Children's Advocacy Days
May 11, 2002	Co-Sponsor of Children's Mental Health Day
May 24, 2002	Washington County DMC Study Luncheon
April/May 2002	Co-Sponsor of Motherread/Fatheread Literacy Program

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

The 2001-2002 Northeast Tennessee Council's Child Advocacy Award was presented to Wilhelmina Williams, executive director of the Northeast Tennessee Community Services Agency.

East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Robert E. Smith
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East Tennessee Council Membership

The East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth has 330 members representing the 16 in the region: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union.

East Tennessee Council Officers

President	Cynthia Hudson, Knox Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative
President-Elect	Jim Griffin, Tennessee Voices for Children
Secretary	Cathy McCaughan, Tennessee Voices for Children
Treasurer	Brenda Cross, East Tennessee Community Services Agency

East Tennessee Council Committees

Executive Committee	Cynthia Hudson, Knox Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative
Nominating Committee	Jim Pedigo, Foothills Care, Inc.
Legislative Committee	Tannis Duncan, Sevier County Schools, Special Education
Membership Committee	Patricia Pearson, East Tennessee Community Services Agency
Juvenile Justice/Community	Jim Griffin, Tennessee Voices for Children Education Committee

East Tennessee Council Meetings

September 5, 2001	Knox County Teen Assessment Survey Results
November 7, 2001	Hate Crimes Traveling Trunk
December 5, 2001	Shaken Baby Syndrome
January 2, 2002	Recovering from the Holidays Social and Networking
February 6, 2002	Character Counts
March 6, 2002	Children's Mental Health Issues
April 3, 2002	Mental Health 101 and Invisible Children's Project
May 1, 2002	Awards Presentation/Installation of New Officers; The Effects of War on Adolescents

East Tennessee Council Special Events

October 3, 2001	Mental Illness Awareness Week: Children of Parents with Serious Emotional Disturbances
March 5-6, 2002	Children's Advocacy Days
April 26, 2002	Juvenile Justice Seminar: Mental Illness and the Legal System

East Tennessee Council Awards

The Dr. Mildred Doyle Advocate of The Year Award 2001-02 winner was Edna Eickman, Family Friends Program, Office on Aging. The Dr. Mame MacIlwain Volunteer of the Year Award 2001-02 was awarded to Jim Griffin and Cathy McCaughan, Tennessee Voices for Children.

Southeast Tennessee Council On Children and Youth

Coordinator: Marilyn Davis
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E-mail: Marilyn.Davis@state.tn.us

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Southeast Council has 426 members representing the 10 counties in the region: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea, and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers

President: Shula Yelliott
Volunteer Center of Chattanooga
Vice President: Dorothy Stephens
Fortwood Mental Health Center
Secretary: Debbie Johnson
Neighborhood Services. of Chattanooga
Treasurer: Jamie Bergmann
Invest In Children

Hiwassee Council Officers

President: Lisa Mantooth
American Red Cross of Bradley County
Vice President: Liesl Martz
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Secretary: Shannon Bishop
Cleveland City Schools
Legislative: Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Denise Williams
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Public Relations: Tim Tatum
Bradley County Juvenile Court
Hospitality: Carolyn Gibbon
RIP
Nominations/Awards: Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Membership: Clark Graham
Rhea County Schools
Carol Cox
Family and Children's Services

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative:	Max Hood, CADAS Ramona Wilson, Hamilton County Health Department
Public Relations:	Jennifer Jackson, Community Foundation
Hospitality:	Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Center Charlesia Brewer, Public Education Foundation
Nominations/Awards:	Erin Creal, Family and Children's Services
Membership:	Frank Hill, Weed and Seed Jeanne Bille, Hamilton County Health Department
Juvenile Justice/DMC:	Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Mental Health Center Frank Hill, Weed and Seed
Mental Health:	Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Mental Health Center Jackie Jolley, Department of Children's Services

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings and Topics

Southeast Council:

September 11, 2001

Safe Schools - Now and Into The Future:

November 7, 2001	John Norris, Director of Safe and Drug Free Schools, Hamilton County Help 4 Kids and Suicide Prevention Network: Rainey Gibson, Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and Scott Ridgway, Suicide Prevention Network
January 16, 2002	M.L. King Birthday Celebration Children's Conference: DMC Presentation: Ron King;
March 5-6, 2002	KIDS COUNT: Pam Brown and Edwina Chappell Children's Advocacy Days – More than 30 people attended during the two days.
May 8, 2002	Children's Mental Health Conference with Tennessee Voices and Region III Mental Health Planning Council Children and Youth Committee.
May 11, 2002	Children's Mental Health Fair at Coolidge Park
Hiwassee Council	
October 26, 2001	Meeting with Legislators: Senator Gene Elsea and Rep. Chris Newton, with presentations on One Stop Shop Concept, Tax Reform, Early Childhood Initiative
February 12, 2002	Showcase Of New Programs: RIP (Regional Intervention Program), Carolyn Gibbon, director, and Rites Of Passage (Rhea County), Janah Henry, director
May 28, 2002	Commissioner Page Walley, DCS, Guest Speaker

Special Projects/Events

Led Southeast Region Family Resource Center – Networking Meeting For Five Counties.
Sponsored a Foster Child at Christmas.
Sponsored a child in the Books For Babes Program (one book a month from birth thru age 6), United Way Initiative.
Co-sponsored Intensive Probation Christmas Party in Hamilton County
Co-sponsored a Legislative Breakfast for Hamilton County Legislators with TCSW.
Organized Juvenile Justice Grant Trainings
Co-sponsored a Child Abuse Prevention Conference.
Co-sponsored Success By Six Meeting in Marion and Bradley counties and did an e-mail and mailing for Hamilton County

Hiwassee Council Award

The winner of the Outstanding Service award was Peggy Pesterfield, Cleveland City Schools.

Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Kathy Daniels
Nashville State Tech Cookeville Center
1000 Neal Street
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Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 275 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren, and White. Eighty-five (85) agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Charlene Hall, Families and Schools Together (FAST)
President Elect	Myra Hargis, H.J. Stephens Center, Livingston
Secretary	Randi Moser, Director, AmeriCorp
Treasurer	Jody Reecer, Advocacy Resources Corp. (ARC)
Past President	Felicia Prowse, Family Day Care Registration, Tennessee Technology University

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive	Officers, Past President, and Chairpersons
Legislative	Dr. Sherrie Foster, University of Tennessee
Youth Issues/Juvenile Justice	Christy Nason, Director Social Services, ECKERD
Prevention	John Rust, Upper Cumberland Community Services Agency
Membership/Nominating	Shelly Painter, Family Day Care Registration, Tennessee Technology University

Upper Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

October 23, 2001	5 th Annual Networking Conference, Predators on the Internet, Sandra Farrow, FBI
February 8, 2002	Brain Development, Miriam McCaleb and Debbie Roddy, Tennessee Early Childhood Training Association
May 3, 2002	Child Abuse Prevention, Child HELP U.S.A.

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

November 11, 2001	Methamphetamine Training, Drug Task Force
December 3, 2001	Upper Cumberland Legislative Networking Breakfast
April 27, 2002	Child Care Collaborative Conference
May 9, 2002	Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Training

Upper Cumberland Council Award

Reggie Brown, Ready to Learn program coordinator- WCTE-TV, Cookeville

Mid-Cumberland Council on Children And Youth

Coordinator: Jo Stanley
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Nashville, TN 37243-0800
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E-mail: Jo.Stanley@state.tn.us

Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 715 members representing the following 13 counties in the region: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, and Wilson.

Mid-Cumberland Council Officers

President	Mark Just, Mental Health Cooperative, Inc.
Past President	Kelley Binkley, TRAC, Inc.
Vice-President	Scott Ridgway, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network
Secretary	Millie Sweeney, Tennessee Voices for Children, Inc.
Treasurer	Frank Mix, Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Mid-Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Child and Adolescent Health	Shawn LeMasters, Youth Villages, Inc. Barry Cotton, Hermitage Hall
Child Welfare	Terri Lawson, Residential Services, Inc. John Tongate, Therapeutic Interventions, Inc.
Juvenile Justice	Carol Martin, Mid-Cumberland Community Services Agency Michelle Covington, Centerstone/Home TIES
Legislative	Ronnie Russell, Centerstone/Foster Care Continuum Jackie Bryant, Mid-Cumberland Community Services Agency

Mid-Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

September 11, 2001	Building Assets: What All Youth Need to Become Healthy, Caring, and Responsible, Presenters: Susan Ragsdale and Dawanna Wade, YMCA Youth Development Center
December 13, 2001	The Brian A. Settlement Agreement: How Can We Make it Work for Kids? Panel Chair: Assistant Commissioner Marilyn Hayes, Department of Children's Services
February 26, 2002	Annual Legislative Training Breakfast: How State Laws Affect Meeting the Needs of Tennessee's Children, Keynote Speaker, Referee Carlton Lewis, Metro Nashville, Juvenile Court
March 5-6, 2002	Children's Advocacy Days, War Memorial Auditorium, Nashville
April 19, 2002	Suicide: A Community Response to the Issue, Keynote Speaker, Eric Renegar, ABOUTFACE; Clark Flatt, Jason Foundation

Mid-Cumberland Council Special Events

April 29, 2002	Juvenile Court Clerk Candidates Forum, Candidates: Eileen Beehan; Vic Lineweaver; April Pennington; and Senator Joe Hayes, substitute for Kenny Norman, incumbent
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Mid-Cumberland Council Award

The MCCY 2001 Child Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Kim Moore, Cheatham County Department of Children's Services.

South Central Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

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South Central Tennessee Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council has 307 members representing but not limited to the 13 counties in the region: Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, Perry, and Wayne counties

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	Gerald Geho, Director Family Services Systems
Vice-President	Elizabeth West, Director of Youth Services Marshall County Juvenile Court
Secretary/Treasurer	Verna Brown, Parent

South Central Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Executive/Juvenile Justice	Gerald Geho, Council President
Legislative	Elizabeth West, Council Vice President
CARE Committee	Dana Simpson, Educational Consultant
Juvenile Justice	Chuck Huckaby, Workforce Investment Board

South Central Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

July 11-19, 2001	Clover Leaf Project: Council of Councils – How Major Children and Youth Initiatives Work Together to Avoid Duplication/Replication of Services; South Central Career Center, Columbia
September 13, 2001	Quarterly Meeting: Election of Officers; Plans for 2002 and Fall Conference, and Membership Recruitment
October 22, 2001	Quarterly Meeting and Conference, Effective Solutions, Motlow State Community College, Lynchburg
March 21, 2002	Council Meeting/Presentation, Unmet Needs of Children, Lynchburg
April 19, 2002	Council Meeting/Presentation, Unmet Needs of Children, Columbia

Council Special Projects/Collaborative Efforts:

2001	Council worked with a TCJFCJ on Help for Kids project.
May 31 and June 7	Council sponsored two meetings with Dr. Larry Thompson on changes in Title 33, working with Agencies Serving Kids in the Tullahoma area
January-June	Legislative Committee maintained a legislative network for addressing concerns regarding children and their families.
February – May	SCTCCY, with the Maury Health Council/Police Department, presented classes on Healthy Relationships, Project HEART.
March	Council sponsored and participated in Children's Advocacy Days
April – May	Co-sponsored Profile of Students Project with Maury County Board of Education and the local Health Council
March – April	Council members participated in a five-week study group on Dialogue in Diversity focused on reducing minority over-representation.
May 3	Co-sponsored Region V suicide prevention conference, Manchester
May 22	Co-sponsored event for seniors with the Maury County Health Council

Northwest Council on Children and Youth

Post Office Box 586
1235 Buena Vista Road
Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone (731) 986-4243 Fax (731) 986-3200
E-mail: Dana.Cobb@state.tn.us
Coordinator: Dana M. Cobb

Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 180 members representing the nine counties in the region: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President	Denise Nichols, Baptist Behavioral Health Care
Vice President	Kim Stephenson, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.
Secretary	Joetta Yarbro, Family Resource Center, Dyersburg City Schools
Treasurer	Becky Holland, Family Resource Center, Henry County

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention	Bret Brooks, Northwest CSA Valerie Votaw, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.
Juvenile Justice	Lt. Steve Isbell, Dyersburg Police Dept. Michael Cooper, Department of Children Services
Legislative	Kris Moore, Youth Villages Raymond Jenkins, Northwest Community Services Agency
Membership	Lori Hendon, Carey Counseling Center, Inc. Amy Cannon, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.

Northwest Council Meeting and Topics

July 20, 2001	Northwest Council Board Retreat and Planning Session
October 1, 2001	Children's Issues: Professional's Response Conference
February 8, 2002	Legislative Forum and Brunch
April 12, 2002	Grant Writing Workshop

Northwest Council Special Events

October, 2001	Red Ribbon Week Project – Purchased and distributed anti-alcohol and drug book marks to all 8 th grade students in each Northwest school.
November 29, 2001	Co-Sponsored Middle West TCSW Conference
March 5-6, 2002	Children's Advocacy Days
April, 2002	Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month, made and delivered goody baskets to Northwest sheriff's departments, DCS, and District Attorney and Carl Perkins Child Abuse Prevention Offices.
April 26, 2002	Co-Sponsored Stolen Dreams and Unspoken Cries: Suicide Prevention Conference
May 4, 2002	Co-Sponsored Tennessee Family Learning Partnership Institute
June 17, 2002	Co-Sponsored Life in the State of Poverty Simulation
June 25, 2002	Co-Sponsored Child Care Information and Networking Conference

Southwest Tennessee Council on Children And Youth

Coordinator: Rodger D. Jowers

Lowell Thomas State Office Building, Box 13

225 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive

Jackson, TN 38301

Phone: (731) 423-6545

Fax: (731) 423-6612

E-mail: Rodger.Jowers@state.tn.us

Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 145 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison, and Tipton.

Council Leadership

Chairperson

Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home

Vice Chairperson

Jimmie Trice-Baylor, Southwest Community Services Agency

Treasurer

Janis McCall, Citizen Advocate

Secretary

Lori Wigginton, Tennessee Voices for Children

Council Meetings and Events

September 15, 2000

MST2000: An Introduction to Multisystemic Therapy

December 8, 2000

Prevention Update: A Look at Statewide Initiatives

January 18, 2001

Recognizing Child Abuse: Reporting Rights and Responsibilities?

videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center

February 15, 2001

Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Physical Abuse? videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center

March 13-14, 2001

Children's Advocacy Days

March 15, 2001

Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Sexual Abuse? videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center

March 16, 2001

Southwest Region CPORT Exit Conference

March 30, 2001

Hot Issues: Parenting Education for Divorcing Parents, Title 33 Revision, TennCare Recertification, Legislative Update, Council Quarterly Meeting

April 19

Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Physical Neglect? videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center

May 17

Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Psychological Maltreatment? videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center

June 21

Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Reportable Parental Disability? videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center and Council Quarterly Meeting

Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council

Coordinator: Gwendolyn Glenn

170 N. Main Street, 9th Floor

Memphis, TN 38103

Phone: (901) 543-7657

FAX: (901) 543-6462

E-mail: Gwendolyn.Glenn@state.tn.us

Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 303 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President	Mona Winfrey, Caring Center
President-Elect	Barry Mitchell, Memphis/Shelby County Juvenile Court
Secretary	Judy Brown, Department of Children's Services
Treasurer	Vince Robertson, Memphis/Shelby County Community Services Agency

Memphis/Shelby County Committees and Chairs

Prevention	Marsha Ewart, University of Tennessee Boling Center
Youth and Juvenile Justice	Henrietta Jones, Senior Services
Legislative	Bobbie Thompson, Department of Human Services
	Juanita White, Department of Children's Services
Executive	Mona Winfrey, Caring Center

Memphis/Shelby County Meetings and Topics

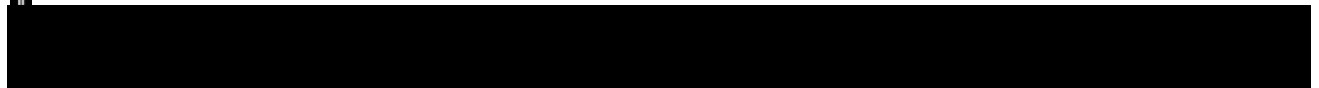
August 29, 2001	It's 8:00 a.m., Do You Know Where Your Children Are?
November 28, 2001	Children and HIV
February 28, 2002	The <u>Brian A</u> Settlement and Its Impact on Tennessee's Children in State Custody
May 22, 2002	The Effects of Alcohol, Drugs, and Violence on Today's Youth

Memphis/Shelby County Council Events

December 5, 2001	Annual Legislative Reception
March 28, 2002	Annual Spring Conference 2002: Gender Matters: Conference on Adolescent Girls

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

Joni Elrod, of LeBonheur Children's Medical Center was the recipient of the Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award.



Information Dissemination

KIDS COUNT Project Publications

The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is part of a national effort to track the status of children throughout the United States. KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions of ways to secure better futures for all children by providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being. Publications completed and promoted during fiscal year 2001-2002 included *The State of the Child in Tennessee 2001*; *Tennessee and It's Children, Unmet Needs 2001*, and the national *KIDS COUNT Kids Count Data Book 2002*.

KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee

At the state level, the principal activity of the Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is the publication and dissemination of the annual *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* uses the best available data to measure the physical, educational, social, and economic well-being of children and families in the state. The report also fulfills TCCY's mandate in Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(a)(1)(F) to annually publish "a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee."

The 172-page report produced in fiscal year 2001-2002 presented data on 37 indicators of child well-being, from birth to age 18. The report narrative used national trends and other information to add a contextual framework for the statistics. Thirty-three graphics, in addition to tables for 95 counties, were used to illustrate the statistical information. *The State of the Child in Tennessee 2001* was widely disseminated in Tennessee and, to a limited extent, nationally. The 37 indicators covered the following topics:

- 1 TennCare;
- 2 WIC;
- 3 Teen Pregnancy and Birth;
- 4 Prenatal Care;
- 5 Low-Birthweight Babies;
- 6 Infant Mortality;
- 7 Child Death;
- 8 Immunizations;
- 9 Teen Death;
- 10
- 10) Alcohol and Drug Abuse;
- 11 School Nutrition;
- 12 Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- 13 Mental Health;
- 14 Child Care;
- 15 Head Start;
- 16 Education;
- 17 Special Education;



- 18 High School Dropouts;
- 19 Population;
- 20 Unemployment for Youth
- 21 Mean Cost of Homes;
- 22 Fair Market Rents;
- 23 Housing Cost Index;
- 24 Per Capita Personal Income
- 25 Families First;
- 26 Food Stamps;
- 27 Income and Poverty;
- 28 Domestic Violence;
- 29 Child Abuse;
- 30 Juvenile Justice;
- 31 Children in State Custody; and
- 32 School Safety.

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* were the Tennessee departments of Children's Services, Education, Employment Security, Health, and Human Services and the TennCare Bureau; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Business and Economic Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University; the Business and Economic Research Center, University of Tennessee; the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and other state agencies; and various state and national reports.

National *KIDS COUNT Data Book*

At the national level, the principal activity of the KIDS COUNT Project is the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, which uses the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. Individual states and the District of Columbia are ranked on 10 indicators of child well-being. Tennessee ranked 42nd overall in the national data book released in 2002. The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project works with the Casey Foundation and the Casey Foundation's public relations firm to disseminate and publicize the findings of the Data Book.

The Advocate Newsletter

TCCY publishes *The Advocate*, a newsletter on children's issues, to inform children's advocates, children's service providers, legislators, policy makers, and regional council members about children's issues. During fiscal year 2001-2002, TCCY produced and distributed nearly 5,000 copies each of three issues of *The Advocate*.

The first 2001-2002 issue of *The Advocate* was released in October 2001 and focused on the special report *Tennessee and Its Children, Unmet Needs 2001*. This issue included information on the unmet needs of children in Tennessee caused by the structural funding deficit and how the shortage of programs and services affect children. The lack of services and programs for children in the state, particularly in the areas of education and access to technology, puts Tennessee's children at a disadvantage.

The December 2001 issue of *The Advocate* featured TCCY's new grant program in the Juvenile Justice Division. The Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) provided funding of \$4.3 million federal dollars to counties throughout Tennessee. Of the \$4.3 million dollars, 75 percent are passed directly to state and local governments, with the remaining 25 percent allocated to programs and projects benefiting children.

The May 2002 issue of *The Advocate* was focused on *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee 2001*, and the *National KIDS COUNT Data Book 2002*. The newsletter highlighted the major finding of both publications with a replica of the national data book pages for Tennessee.

The newsletters also included events of interest to child advocates and reports from TCCY's regional councils.

News Media Contacts

In 2001-02, NewsChannel 5+, a 24-hour local cable news station in Nashville, broadcast the gubernatorial forum presented at TCCY's Children's Advocacy Days. The agency continued to refine its tracking of media contacts and coverage.

Stories on the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* were broadcast on numerous radio and television stations across the state. More than 31 stories, including one editorial, appeared in Tennessee newspapers in fiscal year 2001-2002. Both large and small papers ran several-part articles on the reports expanding KIDS COUNT coverage to days or weeks. In addition, TCCY staff members reported contacts by 13 representatives of the media: three people representing radio stations; two representing television stations; five, newspapers; and three, wire service contacts.

During the fiscal year 2001-02, the *2001 KIDS COUNT: State of the Child in Tennessee*, which was released May 1, 2002, was covered in 23 articles in print or on the Internet. TCCY staff members were contacted by 22 representatives of the media: five people representing radio stations; two representing television stations; 14, newspapers; and one, wire service.

TCCY received a significant amount of media coverage in fiscal year 2001-02 about *Tennessee and Its Children: Unmet Needs 2001*. The publication was covered in 35 articles. Staff members were contacted by 17 representatives of the media: 11 from newspapers; four, radio; one, television, and one from a wire service providing stories to a number of media outlets.

The national release of the *KIDS COUNT: The Right Start for America's Newborns* information was covered in five newspaper articles. TCCY staff was contacted by one newspaper and one radio network.

In addition to the KIDS COUNT Project news coverage, other TCCY programs, events, and staff members received coverage in 47 newspaper articles, including eight articles about Children's Advocacy Days, four on funding, 11 on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act deinstitutionalization of status offenders violations and juvenile justice issues, 14 on regional events and awards, and five on other issues. Staff members were interviewed by more than 24 members of the media, including representatives from four radio stations, four television stations, 14 newspapers,

and two other media outlets.


Nine news releases were sent to 172 newspaper contacts, 202 radio contacts, and 38 television contacts. All news releases were posted on the website, and in some cases additional information was made available through this medium and through e-mail.

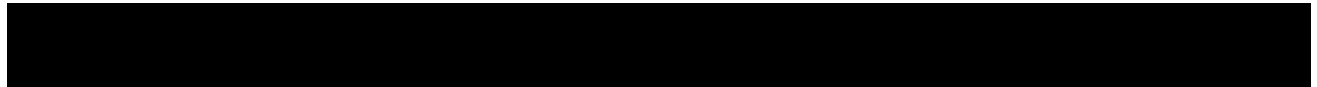
Website

Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year 2001-2002 on the Tennessee Department of Health's Health Information Tennessee (HIT) website. The HIT site provided access to *The State of the Child 2001* database for Internet users who wish to use an interactive process to produce graphs and maps for specific indicators and demographic areas. TCCY also made the information available on the agency's website at www.state.tn.us/tccy.

During the fiscal year 2001-2002 year, the TCCY website was expanded to include information about all of the Juvenile Justice funds available, and the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) report. The *KIDS COUNT The State of the Child in Tennessee* has been available on the website since 1999. All of the publications on the web were in pdf format so they could be reproduced as a replica of the hard copy publications. The TCCY calendar of events, updated weekly, and a listing of sources of information on social service providers were also included on the site. During 2001-2002, 445,530 visits to the site were recorded.

Juvenile Justice Publications

TCCY contracts with Mathew Bender Publishing to publish *The Tennessee Compilation of Selected Laws on Children, Youth, and Families*. Nearly 2,000 copies were distributed to juvenile courts, state government staff, and other children's services professionals. Members of the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges stress the value of annual updates of the compilation. 



Ombudsman Program

Through the Ombudsman program, funded under Federal Formula Grant Challenge Activity F, on an individual basis TCCY furthers its mandate to improve the quality of life for the children and families of Tennessee. This program serves as a neutral party in to review and mediate questions, concerns, and complaints about children in state custody. Confidential referrals to the Ombudsman are accepted from any individual who has knowledge of a child or family who may be the recipient of state custody services. Referrals must involve conditions that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of children and youth in state custody and their families.

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's (TCCY) Ombudsman for Children and Families serves as a neutral reviewer of questions and concerns regarding state child custody services. As a neutral reviewer, the Ombudsman is understood to be an advocate for the child, family, and service system when appropriate. It should be underscored that the Ombudsman will not mediate a dispute resolution that is contrary to the best interests of the child or is inconsistent with the law or state policy. Additionally, the Ombudsman cannot and will not:

- 1 Serve as an agent of law enforcement;
- 2 Find individual fault or resort to name blaming;
- 3 Act as an attorney, provide legal advice, or offer counsel;
- 4 Participate in a case that is imminently bound for court or where petitions are filed regarding termination of parental rights, abuse, neglect, dependency, or child custody matters.

An Ombudsman serves in various capacities, including roles such as:

- 1 An advocate on behalf of the child;
- 2 A mediator between a child or his/her representative and the system;
- 3 A communicator to help all parties involved understand policies and procedures regarding the child;
- 4 A facilitator expediting the delivery of services.

Any individual who has knowledge of a child or family who may be the recipient of state custody services may contact the ombudsman program with his or her questions or concerns. To date, referrals have been received from representatives of the following:

- 1 Departments of Children's Services, Education, Health, and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities;
- 2 Governor's regional offices;
- 3 Juvenile court judges and staff, Legal Aid Services, and private legal offices;
- 4 Therapists and residential services providers;
- 5 Foster parents and caregivers;
- 6 State legislators and legislative staff;
- 7 Biological or adoptive parents, family members and neighbors or friends;
- 8 Child and family services ombudsmen from other states

Upon initial contact, the Ombudsman first determines if the referent has attempted to resolve his or her question or concern through normal administrative channels. The Ombudsman program is not designed or intended to supersede the existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the child and family services system. Referents who have not attempted to have their



concerns answered in this manner are informed of the appropriate contacts for their specific issue. When referents have valid reasons to depart from normal administrative systems or have attempted these and been dissatisfied with the results, the Ombudsman may accept the referral.

During the data-gathering phase of the referral review, the Ombudsman initiates a series of structured interviews with individuals directly involved in the child's and family's custody case.

These contacts may include:

- 1 Parent or parents;
- 2 Department of Children's Services case manager or probation officer;
- 3 Department of Children's Services field services management or central office staff;
- 4 Juvenile court staff;
- 5 Caregiver, residential provider, or foster parent;
- 6 Therapist;
- 7 Counselor;
- 8 Guardian ad litem;
- 9 Attorney;
- 10 Managed care organization (MCO) representative;
- 11 Behavioral health organization (BHO) representative;
- 12 Private insurance representative;
- 13 Medical provider;
- 14 Teacher, school principal, school superintendent; and
- 15 Relatives or friends.

Preliminary contacts are used to:

- 1 Verify referral information specific to the child's custody status;
- 2 Determine the type and level of services being provided;
- 3 Gather facts specific to the question, concern, or issue.

Following initial interviews, follow-up contacts are used on an ongoing basis to share information among parties involved in the case. The data-gathering phase of the referral process may require anywhere from two days to two weeks on any given case.

Through case-specific contacts, the validity of the question or concern is determined. Referrals determined to emerge from a lack of information or misinformation concerning state custody services result in Ombudsman efforts to provide the referent with accurate and pertinent information. This information may be provided directly by the Ombudsman, when appropriate, or a topic-related expert, when available or necessary.

Referrals determined to emerge from issues related to the referent's concern about or mistrust of the information provided within the children's services system are responded to with a neutral explanation of policies and procedures by the Ombudsman. Referrals that emerge from issues related to specific complicating factors resulting in obstacles to the agreed case outcome or the best interests of the child result in mediation facilitated by the Ombudsman. Building on a common goal – the best interests of the child – the Ombudsman facilitates communication between all parties involved in a problematic case. Mediation efforts lead to the re-staffing of the case to finalize the agreed-upon strategy for overcoming the obstacles in the case.

Upon resolution of the referral, the Ombudsman conducts periodic follow-up interviews with the parties involved. The intent of these follow-up contacts is to determine satisfaction with Ombudsman services, answer additional or remaining questions, and monitor adherence to agreed-upon strategies for problem resolution. In referrals where communication between consumer and provider was problematic, periodic Ombudsman re-involvement may be required to facilitate ongoing progress.

The TCCY Ombudsman office has created outreach opportunities with a wide range of Tennessee children's services stakeholders. Efforts have included addressing TCCY regional councils and child advocacy organizations at their statewide meetings and conferences, as well as being available to present Ombudsman services to any interested community organization, non-profit organization, or children's services agency.

During fiscal year 2001-2002, the Ombudsman Program assisted 249 families, 111 active referrals (open cases) and 138 information-only cases, either by direct involvement or providing information and referral sources to referents. Referrals came from the following sources:

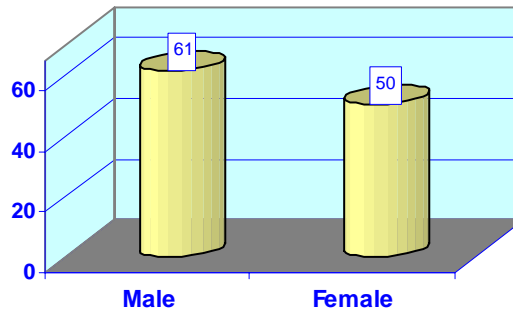
1	Mother	102
2	Father	25
3	Relative	41
4	Youth/Friend	4
5	Foster Parent	7
6	Professional/Nonprofit	50
7	Unknown male	7
8	Unknown female	13
	Total	249

The referrals were broken down into nine primary categories: case management, safety issue, mental health services, medical or dental services, educational issues, legal advocacy, parent support, placement issues, and permanency/reunification efforts. The types or primary categories of open or active referrals are as follows:

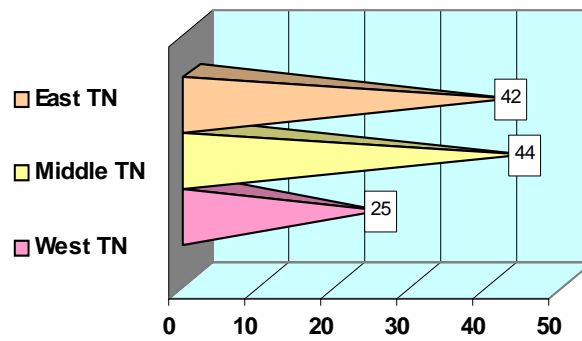
1	Case Management	25
2	Safety Issues	10
3	Mental Health Services	6
4	Medical/Dental Services	6
5	Educational Issues	6
6	Advocacy/Legal Assistance	12
7	Placement Issues	19
8	Permanency/Reunification	17
	Total	111

Gender and Distribution of Cases

Gender of Open Cases (N=111)



Grand Division of Open Cases (N=111)



Title VI

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states:

“No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” (Public Law 88-352, Title VI, § 601, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 252.)

As an administrator and recipient of federal funds, it is the intent of Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) to bind all agencies, organizations, or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control or receiving its funding to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

From July 1, 2001, to June 30, 2002, there were no complaints reported to TCCY regarding discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI implementation plan.

Specific Title VI-related activities during fiscal year 2001 - 2002 included the following:

- 1 All grantee programs awarded funds by TCCY completed the Title VI Self Survey by the scheduled due date.
- 2 TCCY improved the distribution of the Title VI policies this year. A copy of the Title VI Implementation Plan was given to each TCCY employee, Commission member, and grantee. Additional Title VI information, including Title VI brochures and posters, was also distributed to the appropriate groups.
- 3 Title VI requirements were included in the Monitoring Review Guide used by the Department of Finance and Administration when monitoring TCCY sub-grantees.
- 4 The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth submitted its annual Title VI Plan before the required deadline of June 30, 2002.
- 5 The 2002 Title VI Implementation Plan included two letters from minority persons verifying review of the plan.
- 6 An explanation of the Title VI policies was presented at grantee application trainings for new grantees. Training sessions were held in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville.
- 7 All grant application packets for Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth funds included Title VI requirements.
- 8 TCCY regional coordinators and central office staff visited grantees to assure compliance with the Title VI policies and provided technical assistance on Title VI issues.
- 9 TCCY Minority Issues Committee and Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) Task Force reviewed and gave input on the development of the Title VI Plan. ■

